23rd March 1960] [Sri R. Venkataraman]

themselves will have to be deleted. That is my submission. The purpose has been appreciated by the hon. Member Dr. Chidambaranathan as well as others, and, therefore, the criticism misses the point in this.

SRI K. BALASUBRAMANYA AYYAR: May I point out that what the hon. Member Dr. Chidambaranathan meant was that if the Government had contemplated it, they could have provided for a token grant?

* THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN: Sir, even when the supplementary estimate for Rs. 1,50,000 was presented, it was mentioned that the Government might come forward for more grant if the expenditure exceeded the grant. Therefore, in that way the Government have now come forward with this Supplementary Demand. At that time, it was not under contemplation that this tattoo would be taken to other parts of the State. (Dr. A. Chidambaranathan: About two hundred per cent increase.) Because, what was contemplated to be done only in one place had to be done in four or five different parts of the State. What I would venture to submit is that it is not the size of the increase, but it is the purpose of the increase that has to be looked into. If the purpose is good, it must command the acceptance of the House. If the purpose is bad, notwithstanding the fact that it has been provided for in the Budget and a token grant also was placed before the House, it should be subject to criticism and a vote against the Government. In this case, there is no criticism of the purpose. I have no doubt that the demand has the concurrence of the House.

Lastly, the hon. Member Dr. Chidambaranathan referred to two cases in which diet charges had been increased, and then he asked why dearness allowance had not been provided for the Government servants and the teachers. That is precisely the matter which is before the Pay Commission. It is because we realise that the cost of food has gone up and it is because we find that our expenses in respect of hospital diet as well as jail diet has increased, that the Government have come forward to appoint a Pay Commission to go into this question and make recommendations. Therefore, I would submit that the Pay Commission will take due note of the increase in the cost of living and make adequate provision for that.

Sir, I have nothing more to add. I once again thank the House for the detailed criticism they offered on these Supplementary Demands.

## V.—GENERAL DISCUSSION ON THE BUDGET FOR THE YEAR 1960-61.

*DR. A. CHIDAMBARANATHAN: மன்றத் தலைவர் அவர்களே, இப்போது சபை முன்பாக வைக்கப்பட்டிருக்கிற 1960–61-ம் ஆண்டு வரவு–செலவுத் திட்டத்தைப்பற்றிச் சில சொற்கள் சொல்ல விரும்புகிறேன். இந்தத் திட்டத்தில் 84 கோடி ரூபாய் செலவினம் முதலில் ஒதுக்கப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. அதில்

[Dr. A. Chidambaranathan] [23rd March 1960

24 கோடியே 41 லட்சம் நிர்வாக இயந்திரத்தை இயக்குவதற்காக என்று அமைந்திருக்கிறது. ஏறத்தாழ நூற்றுக்கு 21 பங்கு நிர்வாக இயந்திரத்திற்காக இங்கே செலவிடப்படுகிறது என்று சுட்டிக்காட்ட விரும்புகிறேன்.

அடுத்தபடியாக, செலவினங்களில் அதிகமாகச் செலவினம் ஒதுக்கப்பட்டிருக்கிற துறை கல்வித் துறை. அப்படி இருப்பதைப்பற்றி நான் மகிழ்ச்சி அடைகிறேன். ஆதரிக்க விரும்புகிறேன். பதினைந்து கோடியே ஐம்பது லட்சம் ரூபாய் சொச்சம் கல்வித் துறைக்காக வகுக்கப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. இந்த மானியம் நல்ல வழியில் முன்னேறி வருகிறோம் என்பதைக் காட்டுகிறது. நூற்றுக்கு 18 பங்கு கல்விக்காக ஒதுக்கப்பட்டிருப்பது மிகவும் பாராட்டத்தக்கது. அதுவும் நிதி அமைச்சர் அவர்களே கல்வி அமைச்சராக இருக்கிற காரணத்தினால், நிகழ்ந்துளது என்று கருதுகிறேன். நிதி அமைச்சரே கல்வி அமைச்சராக இருப்பதனால், கல்வித் துறை செய்ய வேண்டிய நல்ல காரியங்களை எல்லாம் கவனித்துப் போதுமான நிதி ஒதுக்கித்தர வேண்டும் என மந்திரிசபையார் இசைவுபெற்று இவ்வாறு செய்திருப்பதற்காகப் பாராட்டுகிறேன். இந்த நிலை தொடர்ந்து இருக்க வேண்டும் என்று விரும்புகிறேன்.

12-20 p.m. இனி, அடுத்தபடியாக, நான் குறிப்பிட நினைப்பது நம்முடைய மருத்துவத்துறை ( Medical ) அதற்காகவும் போதுமான தொகை ஒதுக்கப்பட்டிருப்பது வரவேற்கத்தக்கது. "மெடிக்கல்" என்ற தலைப்பில் 48,00,000 ரூபாய் அமைத்திருந்தாலும், இரண்டு கோடி மூன்று லட்சம் ரூபாய் ஆபீஸர்களின் சம்பளத்திற்காகப் போய்விடுகிறது. ஒரு கோடி 21 லட்சம்தான் ஆஸ்பத்திரிகளில் மருந்துகளுக்காகவும், தளவாடங்களுக்காகவும், மற்ற சாமான்களுக்காகவும் ஒதுக்கப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. நான் ஒன்று குறிப்பிட விரும்புகிறேன். பல ஆஸ்பத்திரிகளில் வேண்டிய அளவிற்கு மருந்துகள் இல்லை. மார்ச் 31-ம் தேதி மருந்து என்பதே கிடையாது. டிஸம்பர் 31-ம் தேதிக்குள் மருந்துவகைகளுக்குக் கொடுக்கப்படும் மருந்துகள் காலியாகி விடுகின்றன. பல ஆஸ்பத்திரிகளில் டாக்டர்கள் இருந்தபோதிலும், நோயாளிகள் நிரம்பியிருந்தும் வேண்டிய அளவு மருந்துகள் இல்லை என்பதால், நோயாளிகள் கவனிக்கப்பட முடியாத நிலையில் இருக்கிறார்கள் என்பதை நான் நேரில் அறிவேன். அப்படியிருக்க, 21 லட்சம்தான் இதற்காக 1960–61-ம் பட்ஜெட்டில் ஒதுக்கியிருப்பதைக் கண்டு வருந்துகிறேன். 1957–58-ல் 23,16,000 ரூபாய் மருந்துகளுக்காகச் செலவாகியிருக்கிறது. அப்படியிருக்க வரக்கூடிய ஆண்டில் 21 லட்சம்தான் ஒதுக்கியிருக்கிறோம் என்று சொல்வது பொருந்தாது. ஆகவே, மருந்துக்காக அதிகத் தொகை ஒதுக்கப்பட வேண்டும். 1957–58-ல் இதற்கு என்று ஒதுக்கப்பட்டதைவிட அதிகமாக ஒதுக்க வேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொள்கிறேன். அதற்காக ஒரு துணை கோரிக்கையைப் பிறகாவது கொண்டுவருவார்கள் என்று எதிர்பார்க்கிறேன். 25 லட்சமாக ஆக்கினாலாவது நல்லது.

23rd March 1960] [Dr. A. Chidambaranathan]

அடுத்தபடியாக, புதிதாகப் பள்ளிக்கூடங்கள், ஆரம்பப் பள்ளிக்கூடங்கள் தொடங்குவதற்கு 19,24,000 ரூபாய் ஒதுக்கப் பட்டிருக்கிறது. கற்று வேலையில்லாதவர்களுக்கு வேலை கொடுப்பதற்கு என்று ஒரு திட்டம் வகுக்கப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. அதை வரவேற்கிறேன்.

அடுத்தபடியாக, தொடக்க நிலைக் கல்விக்காக இரண்டாவது ஐந்தாண்டுத் திட்டத்தின் கீழ், 1,37,000 ரூபாய் ஒதுக்கப்பட்டி ருக்கிறது. இதெல்லாம் வரவு-செலவுத் திட்டத்திலுள்ள நல்ல அம்சங்கள். நண்பகல் உணவுக்காக ஆரம்பப் பள்ளி மாணவர் களுக்கு 80 லட்சம் ரூபாய் ஒதுக்கியிருப்பது கண்டு மகிழ்கிறேன். ஒரு பக்கத்தில் மகிழ்ச்சியுற்றாலும், இன்னொரு பக்கத்தில் இந்த உணவை வாங்கிக்கொள்ளும் நிலையில் குழந்தைகள் இருக்கிறார் களே என்று வருத்தப்படுகிறேன்.

தனியார் நடத்தும் கல்லூரிகளுக்குச் சென்ற ஆண்டு கொடுத் ததை விட இந்த ஆண்டு குறைவாக ஒதுக்கியிருக்கிறார்கள். இதைக் கொஞ்சம் கூட்டியிருந்தால் நன்றாக இருக்கும். பல கல்லூரிகள் பல்கலைக் கழக மானியக் குழு (University Grants Commission) கொடுக்கும் பணத்தை வாங்கிக் கொள்ள முடியாத நிலையில் இருக்கின்றன. நமது சென்னை அரசாங்கம் தர வேண்டிய, தருவதாக ஒப்புக்கொள்ள வேண்டிய 25 சத விகிதப் பணத்தைத் தர ஒப்புக்கொள்ளாததால், பல கல்லூரிகளில் ஆசிரியர்களின் சம்பளம் உயர்த்தப்படாத நிலையில் இருந்துவருகிறது. அதை ஆராய்ந்து கல்வியமைச்சர் அவர்கள் ஒரு நல்ல முடிவிற்கு விரைவில் வருவார்கள் என்று நான் எதிர்பார்க்கிறேன். கல்லூரித் தலைவர்களின் சிபாரிசு என்னவென்று உத்தியோக பூர்வமாக அறிவிக்கப்படா விட்டாலும்கூட, நான் அறிந்த மட்டில் ஒவ்வொரு கல்லூரி யிலும் ஒதுக்கப்பட்டிருக்கிற இடங்களில் 30 சதவீதமாவது மாணவர்கள் வந்துவிடுவார்களேயானால், அந்தந்தக் கல்லூரிக்கு இந்த உதவித் தொகை அளிக்கலாம், அளிக்க வேண்டுமென்று சிபார்சு செய்திருப்பதாகத் தெரிகிறது. அதை அரசாங்கம் ஏற்றுக்கொள்ளும் என்று நான் எதிர்பார்க்கிறேன்.

அடுத்தபடியாக, டெப்டி இன்ஸ்பெக்டர்ஸ் முதல் கிரேடு, இரண்டாவது கிரேடு என்று இரண்டு பிரிவுகள் இருக்கின்றன. முதல் கிரேடு டெப்டி இன்ஸ்பெக்டர்களுக்கு ரூ. 165-5-205-10-245 என்ற படிநிலை இருக்கிறது. அதே நேரத்தில் உடற்பயிற்சி கண்காணிப்பாளர் (Physical Director and Regional Inspector of Physical Education) ரூ. 200-10-250 படிநிலையில் இருக்கிறார்கள். டெப்டி இன்ஸ்பெக்டர்கள் ஆசிரி யர்களின் நன் மதிப்பைப் பெற வேண்டுமென்றால், மாணவர் களின் நன்மதிப்பைப் பெற வேண்டுமென்றால், பெற்றோர்களின் நன் மதிப்பைப் பெற வேண்டுமென்றால், அவர்களது படி நிலையைக் குறைந்தது பிஸிக்கல் இன்ஸ்ட்ரக்டரின் படிநிலை அளவுக்காவது உயர்த்த வேண்டுமென்று வற்புறுத்துகிறேன். துணைக் கண்காணிப்பாளர்கள் அரசாங்க உத்தியோகஸ்தர்

களாக இருப்பதால், அவர்கள் கல்வியமைச்சர் அவர்களை நேரில் கண்டு தெரிவித்துக்கொள்ளல் முடியாது. பலவிடங்களில் டெப்டி இன்ஸ்பெக்டர்கள் தக்க மதிப்புப் பெறுமல் இருப்பதற்குக் காரணம் அவர்கள் படிநிலை குறைவாக இருப்பதே யாகும். ஜூனியர் டெப்டி இன்ஸ்பெக்டர்கள் ரூ. 65-4-10-5-125 என்ற கிரேடில் இருக்கிறார்கள். அவர்கள் பள்ளிக்கூடப் பரிசோதனைக்குப் போகும்போது, அங்குள்ள ஆசிரியர்களை விடக் குறைவாகச் சம்பளம் வாங்குவதால் இவர்கள் தங்கள் வேலைகளைச் செவ்வையாகக் கவனிக்க முடிவதில்லை. அவர்கள் செய்கிற ஊழியம் மதிக்கப்படுகிறது என்பதைக் காட்ட வேண்டியிருப்பதால், அவர்களது கிரேடைக் குறைந்தது பிஸிக்கல் டயரக்டரின் படிநிலை அளவுக்காவது உயர்த்த வேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொள்கிறேன். பிஸிக்கல் டயரக்டர் இரண்டாவது கிரேடில் இருப்பவர்கள் பெறும் ரூ. 100-5-140-10-190 அளவிற்காவது இவர்கள் சம்பளத்தை உயர்த்த வேண்டும்.

அடுத்தபடியாக, பால் வேறுபாடு காட்டாத இந்த அரசாங்கம் பிஸிக்கல் டயரக்டர்ஸ் இடையே ஏன் பால் வேறுபாடு காட்ட வேண்டுமென்பது புலப்படவில்லை. பிஸிக்கல் டயரக்டர் ஆண்பாலாருக்கு ரூ. 200-10-250 என்றும் பிஸிக்கல் டயரக்டர்ஸ் பெண்பாலாருக்கு முதல் கிரேடிற்கு ரூ. 165-245 என்றும் ஏன் கொடுக்கப்படுகிறது என்பது எனக்குப் புரியவில்லை. செகன்ட் கிரேட் பிஸிக்கல் டயரக்டர் ஆண்பாலாருக்கு ரூ. 100-5-140.10-190 என்றும், பெண் பாலாருக்கு ரூ. 85-5-125-10-175 என்றும் ஏன் வைக்கப்பட்டிருக்கிறது? இந்த வேறுபாடுகள் நீக்கப்பட வேண்டுமென்று வற்புறுத்துகிறேன். 1959-ம் ஆண்டு டிசம்பர் மீ 14-ம் உ-யில் திரு. முத்துக்கண்ணப்பன் அவர்கள் கொண்டுவந்த தீர்மானத்திற்குப் பதிலளிக்கும்போது, நிதியமைச்சர் அவர்கள் சொல்லியதிலிருந்து ஒரு வாக்கியத்தை மட்டும் குறிப்பிட்டுச் சுட்டிக்காட்ட விரும்புகிறேன், உங்கள் அனுமதியின் பேரில். "மிடில் ஸ்கூல்களில் 1, 2, 3 பாரங்களில் செகண்டரி கிரேடு ஆசிரியர்கள் சொல்லிக் கொடுப்பது கிடையாது. தமிழ்ப் பண்டிதர்கள்தான் சொல்லிக் கொடுக்கிறார்கள். ஏனென்றால் மிடில் ஸ்கூல்கள் ஹைஸ்கூல்களோடு சேர்ந்திருக்கின்றன" என்று சொல்லியிருக்கிறார்கள், அமைச்சர் அவர்கள். முதலாவது, இரண்டாவது, மூன்றாவது படிவங்களிலும் மொழிப் புலவர்கள் அந்தந்த மொழிப் பாடத்தைக் கற்பிக்க வேண்டுமென்ற தீர்மானத்தை திரு. முத்துக்கண்ணப்பன் அவர்கள் கொண்டுவந்தார். செகன்டரி கிரேடு ஆசிரியர்கள் அதைக் கற்றுக் கொடுக்கக்கூடாது என்று தீர்மானம் கொண்டுவந்தார். அத்தீர்மானம் அவசியமில்லை என்றும் அதைத் திரும்பப் பெற்றுக்கொள்ளுங்கள் என்றும் அமைச்சர் சொன்னபோது, இந்தக் காரணம் சொல்லப்பட்டது. மதுரை, இராமநாதபுரம், திருநெல்வேலி, தஞ்சாவூர் போன்ற மாவட்டங்களில் உள்ள பள்ளிகளில் தமிழ்ப் பண்டிதர்கள், புலவர்கள், அல்லது வித்வான்கள் இடம் பெறவில்லை. இதை அரசாங்கம் கவனிக்குமாறு வேண்டிக்கொள்கிறேன்.

23rd March 1960] [Dr. A. Chidambaranathan]

கல்வித்துறை இயக்குனர் இதுபற்றி அறிக்கை வெளியிட்டிருக்கிறார்கள். இந்த மாவட்டங்களில் இன்னும் அது செயல்படுத்தப்படவில்லை. தமிழ் ஆசிரியர்களின் சம்பளம், ராமனதபுரம் மாவட்டத்தில் ரூ. 40—1—80 என்றும் மதுரை மாவட்டத்தில் ரூ. 40—1-1/2—60 என்றும் இருக்கிறது. 1958-ம் ஆண்டு நவம்பர் மாதம் 27ந் தேதியில் கேட்ட ஒரு கேள்விக்குப் பதில் அளிக்கும்போது நிதியமைச்சர் அவர்கள் விடையளித்தார்கள், ரூ. 45—2—85 படிநிலையில்தான் எல்லா மொழி ஆசிரியர்களும் இருக்கிறார்கள் என்று. அது சரியல்ல. ரூ. 40—80-லும், ரூ. 40—60 படிநிலைகளிலும் தமிழ் ஆசிரியர்கள் பலர் இருக்கிறார்கள். இந்நிலை மாற ஏற்பாடு செய்ய வேண்டும். சில மாவட்டங்களிலுள்ள உயர்தரப் பள்ளிகளில், உதாரணமாகத் தஞ்சை, செங்கற்பட்டு மாவட்டங்களிலுள்ள பள்ளிகளில் தமிழ் ஆசிரியர்களுக்கு ஒருவித கிரேடும் மற்றும் எல்.டி., பி.டி. போன்றவர்களுக்கு ஒருவித கிரேடும் இருக்கின்றன. தமிழ்ப் பண்டிதர்களுக்கு மாத்திரம் லோகல் போர்டு படிநிலையும் பி.ஏ., பி.டி. ஆசிரியர்களுக்கு அரசாங்கப் படிநிலையும் அமைத்திருக்கிறார்கள். இப்படி வைத்திருப்பது சரியன்று. இந்தப் பாகுபாடு இருக்க வேண்டிய அவசியம் இல்லை. இதைப்பற்றி அரசாங்கம் மீண்டும் கவனிக்க வேண்டுமென்று வற்புறுத்திக் கேட்டுக் கொள்கிறேன். நான் சொல்வதெல்லாம் தஞ்சை, செங்கல்பட்டு மாவட்டங்களிலுள்ள ஆசிரியர்களுடைய படிநிலைச் சிக்கல்களைப் போக்கி அவற்றை மாற்றியமைக்க வேண்டியது அவசியமாக இருக்கிறது என்பது. 12-30 p.m.

மற்றும் தஞ்சை, தென்னாற்காடு, செங்கற்பட்டு மாவட்டங்களில் 14 ஆண்டுகள் அல்லது 15 ஆண்டுகள் அந்தந்த மாவட்டக் கல்விக் கழகங்களிலே வேலை பார்த்துள்ள ஆசிரியர்கள் உறுதி செய்யப்படாமல் இருக்கிறார்கள். அதாவது காயம் ஆகவில்லை என்று சொல்வார்கள். They must be made permanent. ஆகவே, அவர்கள் எல்லோரையும் உறுதிப்படுத்த வேண்டும் என்று அரசாங்கத்தை மீண்டும் நான் வற்புறுத்தி வேண்டிக் கொள்ளுகிறேன்.

அடுத்து, செங்கற்பட்டு மாவட்டத்தைப்பற்றி ஒரு செய்தி சொல்ல விரும்புகிறேன். செங்கற்பட்டு ஜில்லாவில் நாயகன் பேட்டை, மதுரமங்கலம், வேங்களத்தூர், ஆறுபாக்கம் போன்ற இடங்களில் உள்ள உயர்தரப் பள்ளிகளில் பணியாற்றும் தமிழ் ஆசிரியர்களை முதல் நிலை ஆசிரியர்களாக ஆக்கவில்லை. பத்தாவது வகுப்பு வரை வகுப்புகள் நிரம்பிய இடங்களில் 4 முதல் நிலைத் தமிழ் ஆசிரியர்கள் இருக்க வேண்டும். அவ்வாறு தமிழ் ஆசிரியர்களை முதல் நிலை ஆசிரியர்களாகச் செய்யாமல் இருப்பதற்குக் காரணம் என்ன என்பது தெரியவில்லை. அதைப் பற்றிக் கேட்டால், தலைமை ஆசிரியர்கள் என்ன சொல்லுகிறார்கள் எனின், அவர்களுக்கு 17 மணி அல்லது 23. 24 பிரிவேளைகள் ( periods ) வேலைசெய்ய இடம் கிடைக்கவில்லை, அதனல் அப்படிப்பட்ட நிலைமை ஏற்பட்டிருக்கிறது என்று சொல்லுவார்கள். இந்தக் காரணம் பொருந்தாது என்பது

என்னுடைய கருத்து. ஹிந்தி, சமஸ்கிருதம் ஆகிய மொழிகளின் ஆசிரியர்கள் இவ்வரையரையின்றி முதல்நிலைச் சம்பளம் பெற்றுக்கொண்டிருக்கும்போது, தமிழ் ஆசிரியர்களைக் கட்டாயம் முதல் நிலை ஆசிரியர்களாக அமைத்துச் சம்பளம் கொடுக்க வேண்டும் என்று அரசாங்கம் வற்புறுத்த வேண்டும் என்று கேட்டுக்கொள்கிறேன். அவர்களுக்கு 23, 24 பிரிவேளைகள் வேலை செய்வதற்கு இல்லை என்று சொல்லக்கூடிய காரணம் பொருந்தாது என்பதைச் சுட்டிக்காட்ட விரும்புகிறேன். இப்பொழுது புதுப் பாடத்திட்டத்தின்படி உயர்தரப் பள்ளிகளில் எஸ்.எஸ். எல்.சி., மற்றும் அதற்கு அடுத்த வகுப்புகளில் ஒன்பதாவது, எட்டாவது வகுப்புகளில் தமிழ் வேலை நேரம் குறையப்போகிறது; அப்படி ஏழு பிரிவேளையை ஆறு பிரிவேளையாக ஆக்கிவிட்டுக் கணக்குப் பார்த்தால் மூன்று படிவங்களுக்கும் சேர்ந்து 18 பீரியட்களுக்கு மேல் அவர்களுக்குக் கிடைக்காது. ஆதலால், இப்பொழுது சொல்லப்படும் காரணம் சரியன்று. ஆகவே, அவர்களுக்கு முதல் நிலை ஆசிரியர் சம்பளம் கொடுக்கும்படியாகக் கனம் கல்வி அமைச்சர் அவர்கள் விதிவகுக்க வேண்டும் என்று கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன். தமிழ் வளர்ச்சிக்குப் பாடுபடக்கூடியவராக நமது கல்வி அமைச்சர் அவர்கள் இருப்பதால், இதைப்பற்றி அதிகக் கவலை எடுத்துக்கொண்டு அவர்களுக்கு வேண்டியதைச் செய்ய முன்வர வேண்டும் என்று மீண்டும் அவரை வற்புறுத்திக் கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்.

மற்றொரு செய்தி. தமிழ் மொழி வாயிலாகப் பாடத்திட்டங்கள் அமைக்க வேண்டும் என்று பாடுபட்டுக்கொண்டு அதற்கு வேண்டிய பாடப் புத்தகங்களை உருவாக்கும் வேலையை வகுத்துக்கொண்டுவரும் கனம் கல்வி அமைச்சர் அவர்களுக்கு ஒரு செய்தியைச் சொல்ல விரும்புகிறேன். இப்பொழுது பி.ஏ. மூன்றாவது பிரிவில் ஒவ்வொரு கல்லூரியிலும் தமிழ் படிக்கக்கூடிய மாணவர்கள் குறைந்துகொண்டே வருகிறார்கள். அதற்குக் காரணம் மாணவர்கள் சிறப்புத் தமிழ் எடுத்துக்கொண்டால், அவர்களால் பப்ளிக் சர்வீஸ் கமிஷன் தேர்வுகளில் ஏனையோர் பெறும் சலுகைகள் சில கிடைக்கப்பெற்றார் இல்லை. அவற்றில் பொருளாதாரம், வரலாறு போன்ற பாடங்களைத்தான் வைத்திருக்கிறார்கள். தமிழ் எடுத்துக்கொள்ளக் கூடியவர்கள் பப்ளிக் சர்வீஸ் கமிஷன் தேர்வு எழுதும்போது தாம் சிறப்பாகப் படித்த தமிழ்ப் பாடத்தில் தேர்வு எழுத முடியவில்லை. அந்த நிலையில் இருப்பதால்தான், அந்தப் பிரிவில் மாணவர்களுடைய சேர்க்கை குறைந்துகொண்டு வருகிறது. ஆகவே, தமிழ்ப் பாடங்களையும், அதாவது தென்னிந்தியப் பண்பாடு, தமிழ்நாட்டு வரலாறு போன்றவைகளை எடுத்துக்கொண்டு எழுதக்கூடிய அளவில் பப்ளிக் சர்வீஸ் கமிஷன் பரீட்சைகளில் இடம்வகுக்க வேண்டும் என்று இந்த அரசாங்கம் அவர்களுக்குச் சிபாரிசு செய்ய வேண்டும் என்று வேண்டிக் கொள்ளுகிறேன்.

23rd March 1960] [Dr. A. Chidambaranathan]

இந்த வரவு செலவுத் திட்டத்தில் காணப்படும் ஒரு கூற்றினை நான் மறுக்க விரும்புகிறேன். அதாவது கிருஷ்ணகிரி நீர்ப் பாசனத் திட்டம் என்பதைப் பொறுத்தது. அது 320-வது பக்கத்தில் காணப்படுகிறது. அதற்கு என்று இரண்டு லட்சத்தி முப்பத்தி இரண்டாயிரம் ரூபாய்க்கு முதலில் திட்டமிடப் பட்டிருந்தது. இப்பொழுது புதியதாகத் திட்டம் வகுத்திருக் கிறபடி ஏழு லட்சத்தி ஐம்பத்து எட்டாயிரம் ஆகிறது. இப் பொழுது ஐந்து லட்சத்தி இருபத்தாறுயிரம் ரூபாய் கூடுதலாக இருக்கிறது. இதைப் பார்த்தால், நாம் கிருஷ்ணகிரி ப்ராஜெக்ட்டை முடிப்பதற்கு ஒழுங்கான திட்டம்தான் போட் டிருக்கிறோமா என்பது தெரியவில்லை. இப்படித்தான் நிபுணர் கள் ஆலோசனை சொல்லியிருக்கிறார்களா என்பது தெரியவில்லை. இந்தக் கூடுதலான தொகையாகிய ஐந்து லட்சத்தி இருபத் தாறுயிரம் ரூபாயை அளவு கடந்து கூடுதலாக நாம் செலவு செய்தாக வேண்டியிருப்பதற்குச் சொல்லப்பட்டிருக்கும் காரணங்களில் ஒன்று Payment to Land Acquisition staff என்று இருக்கிறது. அதாவது அங்கு நிலத்தை உரிமையாக்குதற்கு நியமிக்கப்படும் ஆட்களுடைய சம்பளத்திற்கு என்று காட்டப் பட்டிருக்கிறது. இதற்காக ஐந்து லட்சம் சொச்சம் அதிகமாகக் காட்டப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. ஏற்கனவே இந்தத் தலைப்பில் செலவு வரும் என்று தோன்றவில்லையா? ஏற்கனவே இதைப்பற்றி அங்குள்ள இஞ்சினியர்கள் ஆலோசனை செய்திருக்கக் கூடாதா? அப்பொழுதே அரசாங்கத்தைக் கேட்டிருக்கக் கூடாதா? இது போன்ற செய்திகளில் அரசாங்கம் உன்னிப்பாக இருக்க வேண்டும் என்று வற்புறுத்த விரும்புகிறேன். இந்த அளவில் என்னுடைய பேச்சை முடித்துக்கொள்ளுகிறேன். வணக்கம்.

* SRIMATHI JOTHI VENCATACHELLUM: Mr. Chairman, I wish to welcome this tax-free Budget which the Hon. the Minister for Finance has presented to the Legislature. While doing so, I wish to express a few views of mine. Though it is gratifying to note, Sir, that there is increased production of the various commodities like rice, millets, groundnuts, sugarcane and other grains, well, I am unable to understand why the prices of all these commodities are still very high. I wish the Government take very serious note of this in the interests of the general public and the poor man in particular and see that steps are taken to tighten the rules, if necessary, to remove the reasons that are responsible for this rise in prices.

Sir, with regard to the Housing Schemes, I wish to say with all vehemence at my command that though the schemes are intended for the benefit of the low income group, usually they never benefit the so-called low-income group people at all. Because, it is either those who are very influential people or those who own a few houses that are enjoying the full benefits of these schemes. I wish the Government also would take note of this and see that the really deserving low-income group people enjoy the benefits of these schemes.

[Srimathi Jothi Vencatachellum] [23rd March 1960

With regard to Education, Sir, I am happy to note that our Government are introducing gradually free and compulsory elementary education for all children of the age-group 6 to 11 years. While doing so, I wish to request the Government to sympathise with the lot of the teachers who are, to a very great extent, responsible for the education of our children and who are entrusted with the job of moulding their character in the schools, by fulfilling their long-felt need of free medical aid and house allowance.

Sir, we are really happy to note that under Public Health and Medical, many schemes are being implemented for providing drinking water facilities in the rural parts. In this connection, I must say that still there are many parts in the rural areas where no drinking water facilities are available in spite of the fact that this question has been brought to the notice of the Hon. the Minister in charge of Health many a time. I am sorry the Hon. the Minister for Health is not here just now. But, I am sure that the Hon. the Minister for Education will take note of it and kindly convey the same to him. I am happy to note that 8,500 wells or so will be provided. I wonder whether all these wells would really meet the needs of the rural people. Sir, very near the Red Hills, there is the Oikad village where conditions are very bad. A responsible gentleman of that area is also a Member of Parliament. If only we go there and look at the conditions prevailing there, it will be a pathetic sight to notice people suffering for want of water. While considering the schemes under Public Health, we really want people to be more hygienically situated. That is our approach. But, if there is no water available for even drinking purposes, I cannot imagine how we can keep up to hygienic conditions which we want to. I hope the Government will take note of this and see that really deserving parts of rural areas are provided with drinking water.

12-40 p.m There is a provision for building hospitals in certain districts. I have a word to say about the City Hospitals. With regard to the Maternity Hospital in particular, I feel that more professional courtesy should be shown to the patients who go there. The Maternity Hospital is a hospital for the treatment of women and children. Pregnant women getting in there with labour pains are treated in a pathetic manner. Instructions must, therefore, be issued to the doctors and red-jacket-nurses there to treat the patients politely and sympathetically. They must know that the patients need all care and attention.

With regard to the Ophthalmic Hospital, I would like to say that the hospital is particularly in need of a particular plant—the Superintendent has already mentioned it to me—which, if used, in certain cases will enable hundreds of blind people to regain eyesight. That particular plant is not to be found at the moment in any of the Ophthalmic hospitals in India. It is very necessary and if one such plant is supplied to our Ophthalmic Hospital in

23rd March 1960] [Srimathi Jothi Vencatachellum]

the Madras City, it will provide opportunities for many blind persons to regain eyesight. Many such persons from other States also could be treated here.

With regard to diet supplied in the General Hospital, the Stanley Hospital or the Maternity Hospital, I wish to say that the diet that is given to patients is rather poor in nutritious value. I wish the Government take a more sympathetic view of the patients in the general wards and provide them with extra diet of really nutritious value, chosen on the advice of nutritious experts.

I must congratulate the Government on having completed nine major irrigation projects which will be of great use to agriculture and in solving our food problem.

While concluding my speech, I wish to extend, on behalf of the hon. Members of this House and on my own behalf, our best wishes to the hon. Member Mr. V. V. Ramaswami who will be leaving us shortly. I wish him all the best as a future Member of the Rajya Sabha. Thank you, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Would the hon. Member Mr. Natarajan like to speak now? He can continue his speech after lunch.

* SRI S. NATARAJAN : Mr. Chairman, I am quite new and have not learnt as yet how to read the Budget statement and the Budget figures. But during the last three or four days, as I have been watching the debate and on account of the friendship which Members have extended to me, I fell bold enough to participate in this debate.

I would like to make a few general observations. There is a considerable amount of money given both by the Centre and by the State Government for provision of houses for the low income groups and the middle class. From the working of the various schemes whereby houses are constructed and provided for these people, I find that it is not the low income group and it is not the middle class people that are really benefited. There is, unfortunately, a tendency for using Government money to supplement what people have got already and to create a new type of business and a new class of capitalists. Persons who have money and persons who have houses are allotted plots through the various building societies and large sums of money are given to them as grant or loan. After building the houses, these people rent them and by renting, they recover not only the instalments they have to pay to the building societies and the interest thereon but also their own initial capital, from the tenants, thus increasing the rental value of these houses. These houses are occupied by the middle-class people, by people who are employees of Government and various other organisations and all the assistance that we may give them by way of dearness or house-rent allowance is completely wiped out by this exorbitant rental value. In effect, we are only making some people own more property. When we are trying to put a ceiling on land, we help

[Sri S. Natarajan] [23rd March 1960

some people to own more houses and enable them to increase their capital assets. These schemes seem to be schemes whereby the Government are providing cheap capital for capitalists to become more powerful capitalists. In the end, persons who have got to live in these houses as tenants have to pay a higher rental value. This has an adverse effect upon the cost of living and the middle class and the low income groups get squeezed and wiped out. Pressure is put upon them in so many ways. I wish this problem is looked at in a more realistic manner. By and large, these middle-class people are persons who are Government employees or employees of other statutory bodies. Why should not the Government undertake to build houses for these people and make them live in those houses? That would bring down the rent. That would also be a source of relief to others who are also pressed for accommodation. But, unfortunately, we have not been able to look at it from that point of view. Reference was made in the House to the scheme for building houses for the Police and it was said that it was done piecemeal. I know there is no scheme to tackle this problem in a comprehensive manner. A well-planned-out scheme covering a period of five or ten or fifteen years may be drawn up. If necessary, public loans may be floated and houses constructed for the Government employees and others. I know the Central Government has a scheme like that whereby most of their employees are provided with houses by the Government itself. The Madras Government employees, who form a very large number, are in need of such houses and if a scheme like the one drawn up by the Central Government is undertaken by them, the problem may perhaps be solved. I do admit that it will take some time but even if it takes time, the scheme is well worth working out for it will give real relief to the people and will solve the problem of housing.

Another point I would like to refer to in this connection. In one of the house building co-operative societies in Madras, a person with an income of about Rs. 1,800 a year applied for a plot. He was admitted to the society, and allotted a plot and was asked to pay Rs. 1,800. He remitted this and has been paying the interest on that account since he had borrowed that from some other people. Three years later, he was told that on account of certain amenities that should be provided, he had to deposit another Rs. 750. He was not able to pay Rs. 750. He applied for permission to pay it in monthly instalments and paid three instalments of Rs. 50 each. Three months later he got a reply from the Board of Directors to the effect that they would not accept his paying in instalments and that they had resolved to cancel his
12-50 p.m. allotment and to give it to another person in the waiting list. They also sent him a receipt for him to sign and return. He had no other option but to sign and re turn the receipt and the house was allotted to a person who, I am told, was already owning a house in each of three other colonies. This is not giving houses for middle-class people. This is giving house for persons who want to make a

23rd March 1960] [Sri S. Natarajan]

business of it. I wonder if Government schemes intended for ameliorative measures like providing houses for lower and middle income groups could be utilised in these ways. I do hope Government would look into the matter and take steps to prevent such exploitation of the benevolent schemes of Government.

All of us still feel that Government are anxious to do everything for education. But I am unable to perceive any comprehensive policy behind it. Many of these things look like jerry-building schemes coming up. We have accepted the policy of converting elementary schools into basic schools. The basic method has been evolved as a national policy and we have adopted a programme of retraining teachers in basic education. We have also converted some elementary schools into basic ones. But in the process of retraining teachers, the tempo seems to have decreased. I notice in the Budget Speech a statement that for many more years to come the existing pattern of elementary education may have to continue, and that, therefore, the existing pattern of training also may have to continue. I say this matter deserves a little more serious attention. Government should devote a little more time to this question and work out a plan whereby we can say that within so many years we would have converted so many schools into basic schools. We have trained a number of secondary grade teachers in basic method but we are not able to absorb all of them because there are not enough number of basic schools. As such, their training has become a waste. If the original plan of taking a particular area and converting the schools there into basic ones is pursued with vigour and year by year schools are allowed to change to the basic pattern and the training programme is adjusted accordingly, the conversion of schools into basic ones would have taken a good turn. There is lack of organisation so far as this matter is concerned. A little lack of attention to this problem has resulted, I should say, in considerable waste of effort in the matter of traning of teachers. We have trained a number of teachers in the basic method. But we have not converted enough number of schools into the basic pattern. The result is that the basic trained teachers are allotted to non-basic schools.

My hon. Friend Dr. Chidambaranathan referred to the position of the Inspecting Officers. During the last fifteen years the responsibility and work of the Education Department has greatly increased. Even though the area of the State has been reduced, even though a large portion of the old composite Madras State has gone to other States, still the quantum of work which the Education Department has to look after has gone on steadily increasing. If I say that today in the restricted Tamil Nad the work of the Education Department is much more than what it was in 1943 or 1944 when we had the Composite State, I cannot be mistaken.

What is the position as far as the State is concerned? What is the position as far as the officers of the department are concerned? I had occasion for some time to consider this question

[Sri S. Natarajan] [23rd March 1960

on an all-India basis. We found that amongst the salaries of Education Officers in the different States, the Madras Government's officers in the Education Department were getting the lowest salaries. When some officers of the Madras Education Department were selected or considered for appointment in the Central Service, in all cases their salaries had to be doubled or trebled. But the rules were there which said that when officers were sent on deputation, they could receive their present pay *plus* deputation percentage of their salaries, namely, 20 per cent as deputation allowance of 20 per cent of their pay. They could get only a fixed allowance. The position was different in the case of officers from other States. With their present salaries *plus* deputation allowance of 20 per cent, their salaries increased considerably over the Central scale. But if an officer of the Madras Education Department was selected, say, for a job which started with a pay of Rs. 750 in the Centre and if his pay in Madras was only Rs. 300, he could get only his Rs. 300 plus a deputation allowance of 20 per cent of his pay. That is why I say that the scale of pay of the officers of the Education Department should be increased. Mere academic qualification alone should not be taken into consideration. The specific responsibility attached to the technical post like that of an Educational Officer should be taken into account. We recognise the technical nature of the work of officers of the Engineering and Medical Departments. But when it comes to a question of the Education Department, the technical nature of their responsibility is not taken into account. The scales of salaries provided for them are very inadequate and, when compared to other officers at the district level, are very low with the result that the officers of the Education Department are not able to carry their full weight with the district officers and other authorities in the district. I hope the Government of Madras will go deep into this question. I do hope that the Pay Commission will also consider the special responsibility which the officers of the Education Department shoulder, and recommend suitable scales of salaries for them.

There has been an expansion of the inspectorate. A few District Educational Officers have been appointed and our education districts have been separated from revenue districts. But still the volume of work of the officers of the Education Department is very great. They are unable to cope with it. Consequently, there is considerable delay in the disposal of papers, in the disposal of appeals, in the disposal of requests for additional schools and in various other matters. The result is that there is delay at the district level, at the Director's office level and at the Governmental level in the Secretariat. This is because of the large increase in work. When I look at the total expenditure on administration and inspection of the department, out of the increased expenditure of nearly Rs. 15 crores under "Education", a small pittance of Rs. 7 lakhs is for administration and another Rs. 28 lakhs for inspection, making together Rs. 35 lakhs. Though the area of inspection has been halved now consequent on the reduction in area of the

23rd March 1960] [Sri S. Natarajan]

composite Madras State, the work of these officers has not diminished. The concept of these officers, I mean the District Educational Officers, is that they would be guides, authorities in the sphere of education, who would be competent to advise and help the teachers. But they are reduced to just routine executives passing papers from one table to another or from one department to another. That is the present position. As I pointed out already, the work has greatly increased. There is need for strengthening the staff. There is need for increasing and improving the quality of persons appointed to these positions. Unfortunately, there is a tendency (perhaps it may be due to the large volume of work) amongst officers to look at the officers above them. There is no readiness to accept responsibility but always there is a tendency to pass the responsibility on to the one above with the result that each and every matter is referred to the higher and higher authorities, shifting the responsibility in the end to the Head of the Department. This has increased the work unnecessarily and has led to a great deal of delay. There is a feeling of frustration and a considerable amount of dissatisfaction amongst the officers of the Education Department. The Hon. Minister in his Budget speech made reference to the fact that we were still pursuing some old-fashioned methods which stood in the way of quick execution of work. No doubt, it is necessary that we improve the techniques in regard to many of these things when we are working for a socialistic pattern of society. I wish the Hon. the Minister for Education and Finance would set an example in adopting new ways and new techniques to meet these situations at least in the two departments under him. I say this because it is the Education Department, I believe, that should set the pattern for developing the socialistic pattern of society by adopting a democratic way of administration. If officers can shirk responsibility or can pass the responsibility on to others, or would hesitate to accept responsibility and if things have to go on to a centralised place for final decisions, then we will not be working for a socialistic pattern but we will be working on towards an autocracy, and that is not what we are aiming at. Therefore, that is matter on which the Government, I am sure, should bestow early attention. I find, with reference to one of the questions asked early in 1958, the Hon. the Minister for Education and Finance had given the assurance that this matter would be gone into and towards the end of 1959 he had stated that changes in the administrative set-up would be a complicated affair, that it required a lot of time and that the Government were considering about it. I do know that it takes a lot of time. But I am anxious that in view of the importance of this the Government should give some thought to it and take as early a decision as possible in regard to the changeover of this administrative set-up.

1 p.m.

Mr. CHAIRMAN : How much more time will be required by the hon. Member?

Sri S. NATARAJAN : I will finish in two or three minutes, Sir.

[23rd March 1960

MR. CHAIRMAN : Can the hon. Member continue his speech in the afternoon?

SRI S. NATARAJAN : Well, Sir, I shall continue my speech in the afternoon.

MR. CHAIRMAN : This is his maiden speech. He will continue his speech in the afternoon.

The House will now rise for lunch and meet again at 2-30 p.m.

The House then rose.

**(After lunch 2-30 p.m.)**

MR. CHAIRMAN : The hon. Member Sri S. Natarajan may now continue his speech.

* SRI S. NATARAJAN : Mr. Chairman, thank you for permitting me to continue my observations on the Budget. We are now passing through a period of great expansion in education. There are frequent complaints that standards have gone down and that changes are effected frequently. At the same time, everybody is anxious that the quality of education should improve and that more facilities should be given. This calls for some kind of a scientific and objective study of the problems of education. This morning the Hon. the Minister for Education, in answering a question, said that the quality of education imparted in certain schools was of a good quality and that that accounted for a large number of students going there and standing in queues. I hope he realizes, at the same time, that the quality of education in the schools supported and maintained by the State are perhaps not as good as is obtaining in some of these institutions. We spent large sums of money and the bulk of the population, perhaps 99·9 per cent of the school-going population, are educated in the institutions maintained, recognised and supported by the State. It must be a matter of concern for us to see that the quality of education in these institutions is improved. Perhaps, this may be done if there is an objective and scientific study of the problems of education. It is rather regrettable that the Madras University which has the reputation of being one of the foremost Universities in India has no Department of Education. And the Government, in spite of several requests from various teachers' organisations and educational bodies for setting up a Bureau of Educational Research for a study of these problems on the basis of which educational reforms could be undertaken, have not done anything. I am sorry also to point out that even where the Central Government are trying to stimulate educational research by approving small experimntal research projects in training colleges, I do not think any training college in this State has been permitted to accept or avail itself of this project. It is, therefore, a matter of concern that we are not having any research in education. I do believe and earnestly urge upon the Minister that at least during the year 1961-62 he will take

23rd March 1960] [Sri S. Natarajan]

steps for encouraging educational research for enabling the Universities in this State, either the Madras University or the Annamalai University or both, to have Departments of Education, providing for post-Graduate study in education and for research in education. There should also be a Bureau of Research attached to the Directorate of Education in the State.

We have recently changed the method of examination. We made a change in 1947; we again made a change in 1959 and I do not know on what basis we made the changes. There have been criticisms, but whether these criticisms have been properly evaluated, I do not know. Whether this new type of examination is a proper assessment of the pupil's achievement, I do not know. We do not have facts. We go on changing on empirical assumptions because we get criticisms from this quarter or that quarter. If a Bureau of Educational Research is attached to the Directorate of Education, it can be evaluating the examination papers, and the examination system periodically and also the curriculum that we are having in our secondary schools and elementary schools and then make the necessary changes.

Speaking on this question, with reference to the Universities, I would like to invite attention to the fact that in the matter of the development of University education, we have agreed upon the three-year degree course. The University Grants Commission has come forward with liberal assistance to all colleges in order that the change-over to the three-year degree course may be easy. But this question is linked up with a matching grant from the State. Having accepted the pattern of a three-year degree course, when the University Grants Commission is giving assistance in order to enable the aided private colleges to switch over to the new pattern, I cannot understand why the Madras Government are still not in a position to decide whether the matching grant could be provided for or not. The University Grants Commission again has surveyed the position of salaries of teachers and the quality of teaching personnel in our Universities and, recognising that this quality should be great and high, it has revised the scale of salaries and has come forward with liberal financial assistance to enable the various colleges and Universities to give those scales of salaries to their staff so that they may recruit the proper staff. But, unfortunately, the Madras Government are still to come to a decision as to whether they will accept the scales and whether they will assist the colleges with reference to these things.

Again, certain ameliorative measures are given to teachers in elementary and secondary schools. For the mere fact that a person is employed in a college, may be as a tutor, as an Assistant Lecturer, where the scale of salary is lower than what obtains in the case of secondary schools, he should not be denied the assistance which is given to teachers in secondary and elementary schools. For example, the fee concession given to teachers is not given to teachers employed in the colleges. The Pension Scheme

[Sri S. Natarajan] [23rd March 1960

which has been sanctioned for teachers is not made applicable to teachers employed in the colleges. I do hope that when this question is taken up after the recommendations of the Pay Commission are received, the Government will give sympathetic consideration to their claims and include them also in these ameliorative measures.

Teacher-education is a very important subject. It is a very vital subject for the purpose of improving the quality of education. We have been conducting several institutions for the purpose of training of teachers. It is unfortunate that this training is given in methods which were adopted perhaps in the early part of this century. To-day, after Independence, with the desire that as many children as there are of school-going age should be brought into schools and that opportunity should be given to all pupils, irrespective of their economic status, to profit by higher education, the problems of education are becoming very great and the task of the teacher is becoming a specialised task as he has got to suit the needs and aptitudes of individual children. Preparation of teachers is, therefore, a very responsibile task and calls for a great understanding of the educational problems, and of the sociological implications in them. Therefore, our training schools and training colleges should be manned by people who have made a special study of education or are specially competent men for the purpose of educating other people becoming teachers. This matter needs some consideration and a kind of *laissez faire* attitude, just opening 26 additional schools or appointing twenty or thirty more teachers, does not provide for teacher-education, but you require a special cadre for this purpose who will be specialising in problems connected with teacher-education.

2-40 p.m. Referring to the Budget, I would like to say that one of the needs of these training institutions is given very, very scant attention. After all, in teacher-education the students who undergo this programme of education should be given ample opportunities to know the current trends in education in other countries, the various challenges and how those challenges are met. Books and periodicals devoted to this problem form the main source for education in these institutions. But when I look into the Budget and the provision made for books and periodicals, I see that it is ridiculously low. For all the training colleges for men and for women, the amount provided is Rs. 3,000. For all the training schools for men and women—Government institutions—the amount provided is hardly Rs. 2,500. For all the Government secondary schools, both for boys and girls, the amount provided is Rs. 8,000. Apart from the fact that this provision is very meagre and inadequate, and shows that the Government have not realised the importance of books and periodicals in this professional education, there is also a moral point involved. As far as the secondary schools for boys and girls are concerned, the pupils pay a special fee. In the case of aided institutions, they require the management to utilise all the collections of special fee for the purchase of books and periodicals for boys,

23rd March 1960] [Sri S. Natarajan]

I know that in the case of the Government institutions, the income which they get by way of special fees towards library will be much more than what is being spent. When the Government have a rule, in the case of aided institutions, that the money collected should be utilised for the service for which it is intended, I do not know what justification there is for the Government to spend much less than that, and posibly use the margin as a source of income.

I would like to make another observation in regard to secondary education when I am on this subject. We accepted the recommendation of the Secondary Education Commission. The Re-organisation Committee have gone into the question and there has been a change in the pattern of education. We have decided to upgrade our schools from high schools to higher secondary schools, so that only students who complete the higher secondary school course and who have the necessary qualification and aptitude can proceed straightway to the three-year degree course. The new scheme has been introduced from Standard VIII in all schools. But the schools do not know whether they are going to be upgraded to higher secondary schools or are going to stop as high schools. Upgrading a high school into a higher secondary school involves additional accommodation and additional equipment. A very large number of schools are aided institutions. All managements have got to find the resource and have got to plan ahead, if they are to have an additional year, and if they are to provide for a number of courses which are contemplated under the new scheme of higher secondary multi-purpose schools. Even though Central assistance or State assistance is given, the aided institutions have got to find their own quota, and the responsibility of running the institutions is becoming very great because of the growing net cost. Unless these institutions are warned at least three years ahead, it may not be possible for them to be ready when the change-over takes place. I do hope that the Hon. the Minister for Education will give consideration to this question and take an early decision as to the programme of converting high schools into higher secondary schools and notify the institutions accordingly. If the scheme is to make the institutions apply for such conversion, then the Government should give them time to apply for it and satisfy the requirements of Government in regard to the conversion of the high schools into higher secondary schools.

Then, Sir, there is the question of concessions that have been shown to teachers. I am glad that there is an increasing recognition not only in the administration but in the different sections of the House and in the different sections of the public that there has been unfair deal for teachers so far and that the Government's proposal and their orders with reference to giving them some concessions are well appreciated. We appreciate the concession given that the children of teachers should have free education. We appreciate the concession that teachers are entitled to pension. But I would like this matter to be examined a little more carefully. The teachers are now contributing towards their provident fund at the

rate of one anna in the rupee. The Government and the managements are together contributing another anna, and this amount is invested in the Post Office Savings Bank, which gives an interest of 2 or $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. They have several times shown to Government that this money, if invested with the Madras Government, or if they should get the prevailing rate of interest at which the Madras Government are borrowing, or the interest which the Madras Government allow to their employees, namely, four or four and a half per cent, the amount that the teacher would get will be very much more and that it would cover their pension at a higher rate than what is being given. By making the teachers keep their provident fund with the Post Office, we are making the Central Government take a very large share of the profit that comes as a result of the investment of this provident fund. At the same time, the teacher is deprived of his legitimate saving. And it looks as if the Government are giving something ex-gratia by way of pension. If all the money is with the Government of this State, and is invested properly and wisely at the usual rate of interest, then it can cover a higher rate of pension. The teachers also will be getting a larger amount by way of gratuity or provident fund at the time of retirement. I would like the Government to think about this problem.

At the same time, Sir, I may say that there are a number of teachers who retired prior to 1955. I am glad that the Government have extended the pension scheme to teachers who retired since 1955 but before 1958. The techers who retired before 1955 are in dire need of help. Those teachers were drawing salaries which were much lower than what are being paid now. They are the teachers whose provident fund did not amount to anything. Since they retired before 1955, whatever they had earned by way of provident fund has already been spent. They are in the verge of starvation. They need assistance. Their number is not large. The additional commitment to Government by extending pension to all teachers who retired before 1955, will not be a huge amount. On the other hand, it will be just giving a fair and just treatment to a group of people who have rendered devoted service—a lifetime service—under conditions which, we all recognise, are most deplorable and distressing. I think, if not as an act of justice, at least as an act of money, the Government should consider their case very sympathetically.

The Community Development and the National Extension Service areas are supported by the Central Government grants and this Government are also giving money. But, unfortunately, in all these schemes, education does not seem to occupy an important place. We are thinking of education and the school as a kind of community centre. There are many things which we can do with the school as a centre and the whole community participating in it and thus bringing about community development. I understand that the District Educational Officers in the area are not associated with the community development. Even in the Community Development Projects, where there is a school, that is, in need of a

23rd March 1960] [Sri S. Natarajan]

building, priority is not given to the school building. Priority is not given to the school needs, but the Government put up another community block building or a hall for the community to meet and so on. I think in this matter some more integration is necessary so that the school and the community development may be linked together, for the benefit of both the school and the community.

Before I conclude, I would like to express my sense of joy at the general tone of the Budget, which is hopeful, which is optimistic, which does not take a complacent attitude of achievement made, and which is conscious of the many needs, and possibly of the many challenges that we may have to meet when we go into the Third Plan. The awareness is there. Therefore, we have every hope that the kind of prosperity that we have built up so far and the kind of development and progress which we have achieved so far, will have their tempo maintained in the Third Plan and that this State will continue to progress as it has progressed during the last ten years. Thank you, Sir. (Cheers).

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : This is his maiden speech, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Congratulations.

SRIMATHI MARY C. CLUBWALA JADHAV : Mr. Chairman, I rise to congratulate the Hon. the Chief Minister, the Hon. the Finance Minister and the Cabinet on their being able to present a Budget without any new taxes. The Madras Government are to be congratulated also on their resolve to exempt certain perishable articles from sales tax, such as vegetables, fruits, meat, fish, etc. This is a very welcome step; for the cost of living is higher than it was ever before and the taxation on these most important daily commodities had raised it higher. This budget is a marked achievement of the Second Five-Year Plan which is nearing completion. 2-50 p.m.

Sir, nine major irrigation schemes have been completed thereby bringing several lakhs of acres under cultivation. The efficiency, speed and savings with which these projects have been completed deserve our commendation.

Though we lost a large part of our forests consequent on the division of States, the forest wealth of our State, by judicious planting, has improved, for we note that we have 74,000 acres of fuel forests, 6,000 with soft wood, 7,000 acres of teak, 400 acres of bamboo, 200 acres of miscellaneous trees, 16,000 acres of wattle, 2,000 acres of eucalyptus, 2,500 acres of casuarina; fodder and pasteurage have also been raised on 10,000 acres. We are also glad to note that a Medicinal Farm is to be started in the Nilgiris. In the coming year all this acreage is to be increased, specially wattle and planting of eucalyptus trees on the plains.

Of the 360 Development Blocks, 176 blocks are now created and by the end of this year there will be 211 blocks covering 10,500 villages out of a total number of 18,000 villages in the State. Thirty-two more blocks are to be taken up in 1960-61.

[Srimathi Mary C. Clubwala Jadhav] [23rd March 1960

Our major industries are in progress. That is due to our great Minister for Industries. He has changed the phase of our State and made it a great industrial area, growing, growing and expanding. The Neiveli Lignite Project costing several crores of rupees will be completed next year.

The news of starting a Raw Film Factory in the Nilgiris in collaboration with a French firm at a cost of Rs. 5 crores or so which is expected to start production in 1962 or so and would give employment to many is heartening. Also, the setting up of a Surgical Instruments Factory at Guindy, three Sugar Factories, building of a Rayon Factory in Coimbatore district, a Cement Factory in Rajapalayam, a Brick Factory in Salem, Aluminium and Paper Plant and Paper Factory in Mettur, a Factory in Tiruvottiyur for the manufacture of heavy machinery and a further Factory for making railway wagons at Avadi and another Wheel and Rim Factory is all welcome news. Our Industrial Estates are flourishing and 61 units are now under construction at Guindy. Against 62 units in 1958 there are now 78 units and two Industrial colonies are programmed to be built at Salem and Katpadi.

On Friday next our great Prime Minister, Mr. Jawaharlal Nehru will be inaugurating the Kundah Project. We witnessed this mighty project when we had our session in the Nilgiris last year and the skill of our Engineers is to be admired.

We are glad to note that oil is being explored in the Cauvery Deltaic area and we hope that this will be successful adding on to the industrial wealth of our State.

Rural electrification has rightly been given prominence in our Power Programme. Out of 18,000 villages in our State, 10,000 villages would have received the benefit of electricity, 47,000 pumpsets have been installed and 28,000 more will be installed. Madras State is the largest State in regard to rural electricity schemes.

The expansion of technical education alongside with industrial expansion is necessary and in the current year, there are to be established further Engineering Colleges, Polytechnics and Industrial Schools and the strength is being increased in all these Colleges. In this connection, I would like to plead with the Hon. the Minister for Industries that there should be Polytechnics and Vocational Schools for women. There is no such school in our State. There is only one Technical Training School and that is run by the Andhra Mahila Sabha under the Ministry of Education. There is a unit run and worked by women. I do hope that the Hon. the Industries Minister would consider our request favourably.

The Government are to be congratulated on the vast housing schemes throughout the State and on the fact that there is to be continuation of these schemes. But, I would plead for the expeditious grant of loans by the Co-operative Department and the quick disposal of applications for loans and co-ordination between

23rd March 1960] [Srimathi Mary C. Clubwala Jadhav]

departments in this behalf, as at present there is great delay and thereby many houses are either not completed or are half built up to foundation level.

Schemes for lower income groups and industrial housing group and slum improvement schemes are to be commended. Under the Slum Improvement Scheme, a programme to develop plots to enable the slum-dwellers to build houses is a very excellent programme. While there are these houses for all groups, I would like to plead for colonies for teachers, employees of social welfare institutions and others and also plead that under these housing schemes there should be adequate accommodation for playground, community halls, shopping centres, medical relief centres, schools and maternity centres and library and other services. They should be self-contained centres. In the various housing schemes in the City we find it difficult to get land for mere playgrounds. In our planning for these schemes, we should have consideration for these.

We keep on hearing that people should migrate to the rural areas. I find that they are either unwilling to go or trying to resign their jobs rather than going to rural areas. I refer to doctors, teachers and others. It is because of lack of facilities. In rural areas, the first and foremost need is housing and second comes education and third comes medical relief. So, it is necessary that small housing estates should be set up in rural areas in a self-contained manner with schools both primary and secondary, medical relief and other amenities. When this is achieved, people will not be hesitant to go to rural areas.

The Hon. the Minister for Education is to be congratulated on the increase in the numbers under elementary education. In the first three years 4.23 lakhs of children have been admitted and in this year 1,735 classes are to be started, thereby bringing one lakh more children under elementary education and by the end of the Plan, there will be 32 lakhs of children studying from classes 1 to 5.

7.5 lakhs of children in 21,347 elementary and primary schools all over the State are benefited by this scheme, which has been commended by our Prime Minister and others throughout the country, and a sum of Rs. 60 lakhs has been set apart in the current year's budget.

Improvemnt of school buildings and public co-operation is another outstanding feature. Training schools, Finishing schools and schools for training in certain trades are necessary and should be housed in buildings of their own.

May I say a word about the Madras School of Social Work which was started in 1952 under the auspices of the Indian Conference of Social Work, Madras State Branch, and the Guild of Service? It offers a two-year full-time Post-graduate training in Social Welfare Administration. The school has grown very much

since its inception. To-day, we have a factory of six full-time persons and a full-time Director. We are also privileged to have two American Professors under the TCM and Council on Social Work Education and U.S. Education Foundation. This is a usual feature in our school as we are getting foreign experts every year under the Exchange Programme.

The school has sent out 131 trained graduates ere now in the fields of Medical Social Work, Family and Child Welfare, Rural Welfare, Correctional Administration and Labour and Personnel Management. It is quite evident that to-day our alumni are holding very responsible jobs in all parts of the country. Our diploma has been recognized by the Central as well as the various State Governments.

The Madras Government were kind enough to give a Block Grant of Rs. 10,000 in 1956 with which we equipped our hostel and our library. We are getting a nominal yearly grant from the Madras Government for 1959-60 of Rs. 5,500. But this is not adequate. While there are so many grants for training institutions and buildings, I much regret to note that no special assistance is given to us, though we have given several schemes to the Department. So far, the Director of Public Instruction has been treating this institution as a school on a par with secondary schools. Actually this is a post-graduate institution of a special kind training social workers on a post-graduate level and most of our students are holders of double degrees. Hence the school needs special treatment and liberal and adequate grant from the Government to meet the increasing expenditure. Sir, the Hon. Minister, while presiding over a Committee, said that we were able to get very good assistance from the Government for our schools. I am afraid that from the figures, it will be seen that we have not been treated partially in regard to this matter.

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : You have not been treated partially, but you have been treated justly.

SRIMATHI MARY C. CLUBWALA JADHAV : Not even justly, Sir. We have been treated very inadequately.

The school has submitted to the Madras Government a plan to train police, jail and vigilance personnel for a short period. With its equipped and well-qualified staff, the school is ready to launch various programmes of this type. I would request the authorities to give due consideration to this plan.

3 p.m. I am very happy to announce that the Beggar Survey conducted by the Madras School of Social Work under the auspices of the Research Programme Committee of the Planning Commission has been accepted by them for publication and will soon be made available to us.

23rd March 1960] [Srimathi Mary C. Clubwala Jadhav]

The good attention and careful and sympathetic consideration and understanding of the Government of Madras is respectfully requested in behalf of this important and well-recognized post-graduate training centre for much-needed social work personnel.

Sir, I have pleased year in and year out for a grant to the Bharat Scouts and Guides. International in outlook, voluntary in spirit and purely altruistic in motives, when all around us we see many new types of Youth Organizations coming up in numbers, offering to men and women, and boys and girls, personal advantages and monetary benefits, this organization deserves all help. In spite of extraneous attractions, we have still thousands of men and women who are our Scouters and Guides, and Commissioners and Members of our various committees and associations and who have been actively helping the Movement voluntarily and unselfishly in our effective training programme of producing happy, healthy and helpful citizens. There are nearly 50,000 boy-scouts and girl-guides in this State and the annual grant of the Government is Rs. 20,000. Surely it can be Re. 1 per head per annum per boy and girl, while other youth movements can get something like Rs. 5 per head per youth and others Rs. 95 per boy. In all other States in India, the Government are far more generous and give grants to the Bharat Scouts and Guides in a far more handsome measure. I am the Chief Guide of India and when I tour other States I see that as compared with other States, our State gives the lowest grant.

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : Still you do best.

SRIMATHI MARY C. CLUBWALA JADHAV : Because we have volunteers.

SRI S. NATARAJAN : We have given you to all India.

SRIMATHI MARY C. CLUBWALA JADHAV : The Hon. the Minister for Education is the President of the State Bharat Scouts and Guides. He has been a boy-scout and I think many of our Ministers have been boy-scouts. Therefore, they must come to our aid. They give handsome grants to the Auxiliary Cadet Corps and National Cadet Corps and the Bharat Scouts and Guides seem to have gone to the second place.

We have two Camp and Training Centres only—one in Coonoor, Stanley Park Camp and Training Centre and another in Salem. In the City of Madras we have no camping ground of our own. So also in other parts of the State. I would urge on the Government to give us good camping grounds with all facilities. I saw a letter the other day in which the Madras Government had offered to provide a training centre for the All-India Bharat Scouts and Guides. The possibility of getting one of the palaces in the Nilgiris—the Hyderabad Palace or the Barode Palace—is also mentioned. When the Madras Government make this offer to the

[Srimathi Mary C. Clubwala Jadhav] [23rd March 1960

All-India Bharat Scouts and Guides, they should try to secure one such palace to their own State organization for organising not only a training centre but also for holding various children's camps, holiday camps, etc. I do hope that it will be possible for the Government to provide these lively buildings for holding youth camps and running training centres.

Under Co-operation schemes, the Bharat Scouts and Guides have planned for rural training to be given to the scouts and guides. Under this scheme, it is proposed to train $2\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs of young men for leadership to be attached to each village known as the Rover Crew. The recurring annual expenditure for this scheme amounts to Rs. 75,000 and the non-recurring expenditure will be Rs. 9,000. I do hope that the Government will accept the scheme and assist it.

Sir, though the Women's Welfare Department is more than sixteen years old, the oldest Women's Welfare Department in the country, the Government have not been pleased to make this department permanent. There are many employees who are about to retire with no permanency.

I am glad to note that a grant has been set apart for taking in physically handicapped women and children in the Service Home at Tambaram. I hope such Homes will be organised in the districts also early.

We are very grateful to the Government for their recognition of voluntary agencies and their grants to these. I must say that the Government are so zealous of their own Welfare Departments that their assistance to voluntary agencies is diminishing. Then, Sir, the delay in giving these grants is most depressing. There is delay first in securing the grant through the various channels of Government and actually receiving the money books like going to the top of the Himalayan Mountains. Letter after letter, visit after visit for grants to different Departments of Government and Secretaries and finally to the Finance Department cause delay. Voluntary organizations have no full-time workers and more time is wasted in supplying information after information. Can there not be a co-ordinating department of some kind in the Secretariat for Social Welfare? Cannot one officer or Director—call him what you will—be made responsible for the examining of requests and giving of grants? Also, many Welfare agencies are not given land for their building programmes. The Government have many sites to give and they do give them to various people; but the Social Welfare agencies somehow receive stepmotherly treatment in this matter.

Sir, I would urge that more social workers are given representation on the various committees that are formed by the Government. They are now chiefly composed of officials and legislators. In other countries, social workers are known as social statesmen and they are given a place and a position.

23rd March 1960] [Srimathi Mary C. Clubwala Jadhav]

The Madras Police is one of the finest forces in the country. Last year we witnessed the celebration of their Centenary which was fittingly done. The police force of to-day has to do many duties. Increase of population and industrialisation has brought with it its own responsibilties. The arrival of V.I.P.'s in a continuous stream, and large public meetings are some of their many duties. The enforcement of Prohibition and maintenance of Law and Order are with the Police. But the Police force is insufficient. I think there are roughly less than 300 policemen dealing with traffic in Madras. With the increase, as I said, of population, industries and business in this large City with 20 lakhs of people, we are woefully short of police force. We have heavy traffic that pours into the City and the result is buses and lorries are plying night and day in larger forces. Accidents are more. In residential areas there is no night or day for people; with the hooting of horns and the unlimited speed with which lorries and buses run, there is no peace. There must be some hours for the cessation of this heavy traffic. Besides, Sir, on the main roadways, I refer to Poonamallee High Road and Mount Road in particular, is it not possible to have only certain hours for the buses and lorries to ply? I am glad that a Special Committee has been formed to consider ways and means of improving the traffic position and that some fairly large amount has been placed at the disposal of the Police. I hope that it will not be long before something is done to reduce the congestion on main roads and that the arcade will shortly be completed.

I am also glad to note the Housing Scheme for the Police all over the State, the welfare measures for them and also the excellent welfare work done for the welfare of Police families.

Sir, it is regretted that the allocation for Medical and Public Health is lesser than in former years, though it is good to note the various construction works undertaken for housing the hospitals. There is now a new Mental Hospital coming up in Madurai. I understand the Infectious Diseases Hospital has been given two lakhs of rupees for improvement and expansion. There should be at least one more hospital in the City at Kodambakkam.

While Tuberculosis clinics are to be started in Cuddalore, Tuticorin and Pudukkottai areas, it is regretted that more clinics are not envisaged. Tuberculosis is one of the largest death-taking diseases in our State and takes a toll of 10,000 persons. Steps must be taken to open more Tuberculosis clinics in the State.

I am glad to note that there is to be training for 25 nurses. Still our hospitals are most woefully and inadequately staffed with nurses. Instead of making nurses do all sorts of work in the ward, they should be left only with nursing work and social welfare workers should be employed for attending to other duties in the hospitals and in the wards. In so large a hospital as the Government General Hospital, there are only four social workers employed.

[Srimathi Mary C. Clubwala Jadhav] [23rd March 1960

I would urge more attention to be paid to the question of supply of water in Madras City and improvement of the drainage. The odour both of the water which we are drawing and the Cooum and Adyar rivers spoil the beauty and hygiene of the City.

Various Family Planning Schemes are progressing satisfactorily. There are 26 Urban and 64 Rural Centres and 43 Centres for mothers and 32 for fathers in Madras City. Our population is increasing at the rate of 6 lakhs a year. The Government should not fight shy of propagating family planning. The sociel workers are behind the Government in this programme, in their work and
3-10 p.m. in their propaganda.

I regret to note the alarming increase in juvenile delinquency, though we, who are working in these Courts and institutions, know that a large number of cases that come to us are destitutes. Yet, the increase in the figures of delinquents is rather enormous. For example, in the year 1958 the children brought before the Court were 1930 in number. In the year 1959 the figure doubled and the number was 3,927. The age group of the boys brought was 7 to 12 years, 12 to 17 years and 17 to 21 years. The largest increase of crime was in the age group 17-21, namely, 771. The boys sent to the Borstal schools in former years were one or two. But during the last year 46 boys were admitted into the Borstal school. This is rather an alarming figure. Though destitution may be a social problem, still delinquency is spreading.

Sir, I would like to thank the Government for the support given to the Boys Club. There are 12 such clubs in the whole State. The object of the Club is to encourage sports, games, scouting, instructing the children in the principles of good citizenship and usefully employing their leisure hours. Sir, I was pleased to note, when we had our All-Party Meeting on Planning, that great interest was evinced by legislators in the various programmes of social welfare under the Third Plan specially with reference to the Boys Club.

I am also glad to note the construction of quarters for the staff of the Jail Department and also the good news that the Madras Central Jail is to be removed to Red Hills. I do hope that the space that will thus become available will be used for the extension of the General Hospital. I hope when these jails are built, they will be built on modern hygienic lines with equipment, with space and compound all round.

I should like to congratulate the Government on the establishment of a large number of after-care homes and shelters. They are progressing very well indeed, especially the homes for males discharged from correction institutions in Madras and for women in Vellore. But I would plead that there must be some homes for unmarried mothers. Unfortunately, there are a large number of women in distress and except for one home run by a Mission and

23rd March 1960] [Srimathi Mary C. Clubwala Jadhav]

recognised by the Government, there is none which could take them. We need more homes for this category of unfortunate women.

Sir, so far as the Vigilance Association is concerned, it is still housed in a rented building. Government should see that these institutions own their own buildings. If not within the City, buildings might be put up outside the City and these institutions moved out.

Sir, I am very sorry to note that the Government of Madras have not yet been pleased to appoint Women Police. I do not know why the Government are so shy of appointing Women Police. Every time the scheme comes up, it is dropped. They are wanted for no other work than the work connected with juvenile offenders and vigilance work. They advertised for Women Police and said that those who applied were not suitable. And what was the salary offered? How do the Government expect the women of the State to come taking all the risk of the work and for a constable's salary? The department also demanded a certain standard of stature, height, size, and so on. I do not think women with such standard will be available in South India. Probably they may be able to insist on such standards in North India where they can get that type of ladies. Surely size and stature are not the only consideration. In other places you surely have women Police not in the grade of constables. They are at least in the grade of Sub-Inspectors and others. In this connection, Sir, I understand there is a proposal under the consideration of the Government to start a Juvenile Aid Police Bureau. This is very much required and I would appeal to the Government to start the bureau early.

Sir, let me now turn to beggar nuisance. It is very much on the increase now. I would just give some figures about it. In the year 1956, the Madras School of Social Work conducted a survey of the beggars throughout the entire City. According to our estimate, at that time there were about 5,000 beggars engaged in this business. It was proved that two -third of the beggar population consisted of male members. Another important feature is that 27 per cent were below 20 years of age whereas 16 per cent only were aged people. It was also found that about 70 per cent of the beggar population were able-bodied beggars who were capable of taking to productive work but were forced into this profession due to lack of employment and for other reasons. A huge percentage of them consisted of leper patients and the next in the category were the mentally sick. It was found that beggars frequented the pavements, bus stops, religious centres, railway stations, hospitals and residential areas, and now the airports, as well. They have different forms of exhibitionism with which they draw the public sympathy. It was also found that 92 per cent of the total population of beggars belonged to the State of Madras and that only 8 per cent were from outside the State, that is, from neighbouring States. The money that these beggars collect by way of alms in a month is about Rs. 50,000. This is rather a modest estimate.

[Srimathi Mary C. Clubwala Jadhav] [23rd March 1960

That shows that if this money was canalised and these people put in workhouses and into employment, this menace, which is a disgrace to any nation and mostly to our State, could be successfully rooted out.

Then, I would like to turn to tourist traffic, one of my very favourite subjects. I always wonder why the Government of Madras are so slow in taking it up. The South is the gateway to the beautiful Sunny South with its beautiful temples, arts and cultural places and yet we do very little for this tourist traffic. Here and there a few buildings or rest-houses have been put up. But they are not very well-equipped or self-contained. The Government have taken no other interest in it. I brought this to the notice of the Government last year, namely, the publication of some good pamphlet. At last, I should congratulate the Government of Madras on having brought out one of their own, even though it is not so beautiful and good. There are ever so many beautiful pamphlets brought out by the Government of India and the Tourist Agencies. I should like to instance the booklet published by Messrs. T.V.S. about Madurai with all details in it. Why should not the Government in their own departments try to publish some good booklets of their own and also some literature and do much more for the promotion of tourist traffic? In this connection, I should like to refer to another thing. The Government have now introduced long-distance buses from Madras to Bangalore. There are only one or two buses on the route and they are very much overcrowded. The Government would do well to double the number of buses on that route and thus earn more money. They should also open more long-distance routes and run buses to Mahabalipuram and Kancheepuram on Sundays and on other days. Again, for excursions inside the City, they are not running any buses, for internal visits within our City for our own people and for others coming from outside. The Hon. the Finance Minister and the Hon. the Industries Minister know how much could be done in this direction. I understand that private agencies had appealed to the Tourist Bureau for assistance in running buses within the City. But I find neither the Government run their own buses nor are they willing to allow the private agencies to run them. I would appeal to the Government to allow one or two buses to be run within the City by private agencies if they cannot do it themselves. It would be very worth while doing.

Then, I would like to ask the Government why they should not run their own hotel. Madras is inadequately supplied with hotels. There are only two big and good hotels, the Hotel Oceanic and Connemara. So far as the other hotels go, they are very small hotels though we have very excellent vegetarian hotels such as the Woodlands and the Dasaprakash. Why should not Government, therefore, have their own hotel as many other Governments do? It would not be any loss to the Government, of course, if it is well run and in these hotels the Government can do their entertaining also.

23rd March 1960]

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : If the hon. Member is prepared to take charge of it.

SRIMATHI MARY C. CLUBWALA JADHAV : Yes, Sir, we will take charge of it and make a success of it also. We have no doubt about it. We will get you very good returns from it. Also I would like to say that there should be large entertainment halls, conference halls and other amenities in the City. I know, when you receive many dignitaries, you are hard put to it to find accommodation in the hotels. They are small and also full. I do hope the Government will set aside a good sum of money and also get a large grant from the Government of India and have their own hotel. (An hon. Member : It wont't be another Asoka Hotel.)

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : I may inform the hon. Member, since that has been mentioned, the Asoka Hotel is full and is running very successfully and it is one of the prides of India.

SRIMATHI MARY C. CLUBWALA JADHAV : Let us also have our own hotel and let it be the pride of Madras or even of India

Now, Sir, I must thank the Government for their continued support to the Food Council. But the annual grant given by them is only Rs. 4,000. I would urge for better grants from the Government. We desire to run an institution of catering for popularising the different food subsidiaries which the Annapoornas cater to the man in the street. I hope the Government would give a subsidy and grant for this. Though the prices are rising, our prices remain the same. We are not a profit-making organisation, but neither do we desire to have losses. We have Annapoorna Cafetarias on Mount Road, in the Harbour including the Port Trust Hospital and the Industrial Canteen, the Mental Hospital and the Presidency College. The Government asked us to pay sales tax, and we were never informed of that. We represented these matters to the Hon. Minister. The Minister said that the past claims would be waived and that in the future only we would be asked to pay. But we are threatened with legal notices by the Department. The Hon. Minister has not given the order of waiver in writing or stating that we may be exempted. I hope he will do so and help us.

One word more about visiting dignitaries to our country. Except for certain high officials and legislators, there is no opportunity for others to meet them. There is the usual round to the Coach Factory, Mahabalipuram, to the Victoria Technical Institute and other places. The visitors are shown all the fine things that the State produces and all that the State has achieved. But they are not shown the people. They do not meet the people. They know about so many other things that they want to know. Of course, gentlemen could be taken care of by themselves. But what about ladies? The Government take away the wives of these dignitaries also to the Coach Factory. (Laughter.) They are not inclined to see them. They want to meet the women of our place and know

3-20 p.m.

about them, know what progress has been made in women's education, and what other things are happening. Therefore, I would urge on the Government the necessity of constituting a Hospitality Committee of all the voluntary agencies to entertain them as is done in other States in India. I would also like the Government to invite social workers when receiving these dignitaries, protocols relaxed, if necessary.

Then, Sir, our Legislative Chamber is getting more and more cramped. We are almost sitting over the heads of the others. Even if you are not going to give us a new building to house our Council, I understand—there are rumours—that there is a scheme to expand this hall. It may perhaps deprive you of your room (laughter), the walls may have to be removed and the verandahs taken in. I wish something is done to extend this hall to make it worthy of this Upper House. There are so many schemes and plans taken up and surely I think this House should have a better place with more accommodation.

Lastly, Sir, the term of many of us shortly ends. You, Sir, are a very fine Chairman, fair to all. This is a House of great dignity and decorum. We thank you, Sir. We thank our Chief Minister, the Hon. the Leader of the House, the Hon. the Finance Minister, the Hon. the Revenue Minister, the Hon. the Home Minister, the Hon. the Minister for Electricity, the Hon. Minister for Public Works and the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration and offer our respects for the efficient and able way in which they have administered the affairs of this great State. This is the finest administered State in the country.

**Thank you, Sir.**

DR. A. LAKSHMANASWAMI MUDALIAR: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am afraid, try as I might, I will not be in a position to imitate the excellent example of the previous speaker. She started with complimenting the Government and all the Members of the Treasury Bench and ended by complimenting them again. But in between, I am afraid, there was a string of complaints. There were lots of things that she did not approve of. And certainly there were many criticisms. Perhaps, she tried to put them all in the form of sugarcoated pills. I lack that gift and, therefore, I may be forgiven.

Sir, I shall content myself with referring to certain facts which ought to be brought to the notice of the Government and the House. The Budget presented by the Hon. the Finance Minister has naturally evoked much appreciation from several Members in this and the other House. The fact that there is no additional taxation—at least apparently no additional taxation—is one such cause. But if we go through the Budget and various other things, we will find concealed taxation, taxation of a nature which has to be borne by the public. But let me also join in the congratulations in the hope that at least for this year we have been left without any additional taxation. Sir, having seen many Budgets during

23rd March 1960] [Dr. A. Lakshmanaswami Mudaliar]

the last fourteen years, I must confess to a feeling that, somehow or other, the Budgets as they are now presented are rather in the nature of fictitious Budgets, if I may use that word without offence. In the old days, the Budget used to be based on exact ideas about what the income would be, and what the expenditure would be and, therefore, every item of expenditure could be scrutinised. To-day, thanks to the disbursement of loans, gifts and things like that that are given by the Government of India, if the Gods on the Planning Commission are pleased to allow such amounts, we are not in a position to know what the Budget will really be. Therefore it is that we have a very large additional Budget presented to us later on in the course of the year. There is a doubt whether all these things—they may be good, they may be excellent things to happen—could be allowed to happen. There is a feeling that the expenditure side is not always scrutinized in the manner in which it used to be done in former times. Every single post, whatever may be the nature of that post, from what is now called Class IV post right up to the highest level, had to pass through a machinery which was as irksome as anybody could have thought about it and also through various detailed considerations which perhaps fortunately we are not expecting to-day. So it is that my hon. Friend the other day said that 21 per cent of the Budget amount was now spent on Services. We do not know how much more will be spent on various other projects for creating a Welfare State about which we hear so much. So far as the Welfare State is concerned, some of us are still dreaming of it rather than realizing it.

Sir, many of the proposals of the State Government have necessarily got to be tuned to the dictation of the Planning Commission. I use that word advisedly because it is so in many cases. It is not always possible for the Government or the Legislature to think of a certain plan unless it is supported by the Planning Commission. I have not hesitated to say that the Planning Commission is only a legal fiction, it has no legislative sanction whatever and, so far as I am aware, in no country where there is a democratic form of Government is there such a body as the Planning Commission superimposed by the Government at the Centre and giving directions to the State Government as to what is best for them. I concede there are occasions when the Planning Commission have necessarily to think of a large plan in the interest and the general importance of the people all over the country. But instances are not wanting—we can quote any number of instances—when the Planning Commission are not in a position or rather have not found it possible to support some of the very important measures that the State Legislature and the State Government are prepared to push through. Therefore, I was very glad to know from the speech of the Hon. the Finance Minister that many industrial enterprises were likely to be started in the State and that many major industries were to be started in the private sector. Many of us were doubtful in view of the ideologies of the Government at the Centre whether any industries would be allowed to spring up in the State

in the private sector. I am glad that the Hon. the Minister for Industries has seen to it that a just allocation of the duties in the industrial expansion of the country and of the State has been made over to the private sector. While the private sector is given the impetus, the State Government also have a certain amount of hold on the private sector.

Sir, time and again, when request was made for setting up heavy industries, we were told that the main difficulty was that in this part of the country, iron ore of poor quality and in inadequate quantities alone was available. In fact, the Hon. the Industries Minister has in his recent statement referred to this factor and stated that the quality of the ore that is available would yield only to the extent of 40 per cent. One would have thought, under these circumstances, that the resources of the country in regard to iron and steel would be more adequately protected so as to enable all areas of the country to develop heavy industries at least in course of time and that whatever steps were necessary would be taken for the material progress of the country as a whole.

3-30 p.m.

It is a well-known fact that the strongest criticism against the alien Government, prior to the attainment of Independence, was that they were bartering away the natural resources of the country to foreign exploiters so that while the exports were all mainly of raw material in one form or another, the imports of finished products were sold at a much higher rate. Having heard this comment and having known that it was a fact in the olden days, it was disquieting to read in the Press a message from New Delhi, announcing that an agreement between the Indian Iron Ore Negotiating Committee and a foreign steel mission was signed for the supply of four million tons of iron ore every year from Bailadila Iron Ore project in Bastar district of Madhya Pradesh, not immediately but from the middle of 1966 and that this agreement, which was subject to ratification by the two Governments concerned, would, of course, last for a period of fifteen years in the first instance from the middle of 1966. This is in addition to the earlier deal with the same country.

Not content with this, it is stated that the National Mineral Development Corporation, a State undertaking, is now examining a project report for the exploitation of iron ores near Rourkela and that the Corporation has undertaken to export to the same country two million tons of iron ore every year from 1964, under an agreement entered into between the two countries. I know that the Hon. the Minister for Industries will say that this is not a matter with which the State Government can deal but I may ask him whether he has at all been consulted with regard to such transaction for I know that Ministers for Industries in the various States have been called to Delhi for conferences. Almost every month one Minister or other goes to Delhi. In fact, they have sojourns to Delhi frequently, as some of us have sojourns in a little place like Poonamallee or Chingleput.

23rd March 1960]

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : Europe.

DR. A. LAKHMANASWAMI MUDALIAR : Sometimes in Europe, of course.

I should like to ask the Hon. the Minister for Industries—this is a very important thing in my view—whether any consultation has been made and whether he has at any time been taken into confidence with regard to this material agreement that the Central Government have made with a foreign Government in regard to a very important resource of this country. In fact, we are told that it is the most important mineral resource of this country. Now, Sir, that is another aspect of the question to be considered. Are we in a position to mortgage the country's resources including the rights and claims of posterity from a future date for fifteen years right up to the year 1981? I think this is a very serious matter and I hope that in future at any rate, our Ministers, when they go to Delhi, will ask the Central Government to give positive assurances that they will be consulted in this behalf. It cannot be a one-way traffic. Are the Ministers to be called to Delhi merely to follow the dictates of the Planning Commission? Have not they got the right to emphasise their point of view? I know that Ministers are quite aware of their responsibilities and their obligations but as a Member of this House, I should like to state that it is their right, primary right, to be taken into confidence and to be consulted in all these matters. Sir, we are told that iron ore is the most important single factor in the economic development of the country and some of us have realised that it is also the most important factor, if at any future time, God forbid, strained relations should arise between the two countries.

I wonder what would have been the result, if thirty years ago a similar deal had been signed—whether the events of the historic period of World War II would have taken a different turn. And let me say this : In our anxiety to be peace-loving and to remain in friendly contact with all countries of the world, the pages of history cannot be altogether erased out of the memory of mankind.

Sir, I shall refer now to another aspect of the matter which has troubled me. A pamphlet *re* Housing in Madras State (1959–60) has just been placed on the table of the House. But I must apologise to you for saying that I have not had the opportunity of verifying what is contained in this excellent pamphlet which I hope I will read leisurely.

Now, Sir, a report has appeared in the Press that the Government have sanctioned a sum of Rs. 8·75 lakhs to the City Improvement Trust for executing the Nandana Non-Gazetted Government Officers' housing accommodation scheme. The scheme envisages the development of about 200 grounds in this area and provision of 30 houses for the Non-Gazetted Officers to begin with on a portion of the land. The work connected with the construction

[Dr. A. Lakshmanaswami Mudaliar] [23rd March 1960

of the houses will commence in about a month and they will be ready for occupation before the middle of next year. Sir, let me not go into the details of the housing scheme. But I have to express with deep regret that the construction of quarters by the City Improvement Trust has not been in consonance with any recognised scheme of town-planning anywhere in the world. So far as my knowledge goes, it is a well-known and accepted principle that so far as residential accommodation is concerned, the construction must take place after taking due note of localities where at present or in future business activities may start. It seems to be extraordinary that on the main Southern Trunk Road, a number of small one-room tenements have been constructed. I would request Hon. Ministers and hon. Members of the House, when they happen to go to the airport either for travel or for receiving friends, to see the houses which have been constructed there. Surely the most valuable site, from the point of view of business, should not have been utilised for this purpose. It could have fetched a much better return to the City Improvement Trust if it had been earmarked for business activities. More than that, in the so-called ' Nagars ' that are now being started everywhere, little or no principles regarding housing colonies seem to be followed. I have looked round some of these so-called colonies and I find that no provision has been made even for a Primary School or for a little shopping centre or a vegetable shop and no care has been taken to see whether there is any children's playground. It seems to me that this is not the way in which other countries have evolved their town-planning schemes. The construction is all isolated, single, little quarters where it would certainly have been more to the purpose if tenements had been constructed on the plan of flats for a ground-floor and a first-floor at least for four families to be accommodated. Let me make it clear that I am not for reducing amenities of this type to people who want housing facilities but I am for increasing housing facilities. This would have given room for the other amenities required for housing colony.

Sir, the first fundamental in any scheme of housing which the Government must take care of is that their officers are given proper housing facilities. The Government should set an example in regard to this matter whereas they are insisting on others to provide for more quarters. I know how much the Hon. Minister who is in charge of Accommodation Control is troubled with this matter.

I also understand that the Government of India have given large loans or subsidies for the construction of houses for Government servants. It should, therefore, be the duty of the Government to utilise this amount for the construction of quarters. Especially at a time when the Government are trying to utilise the provisions of Accommodation Control to take over houses constructed in various places by private parties, one fails to understand how valuable plots of land are allowed to be sold and not utilised for the construction of quarters for Government employees.

23rd March 1960] [Dr. A. Lakshmanaswami Mudaliar]

Sir, I was very much surprised to find an announcement that the City Improvement Trust had suggested that certain costly plots of land might be sold to the people who could buy them and build houses. The order of the Government, as far as I can see, is that these plots should first be sold to Non-Gazetted Officers and then to Gazetted Officers and that if either of them did not buy, then the plots should be sold to the public. I wish to ask the question "Are you asking the Non-Gazetted Officers to build houses? Will they retain them for all time? Will they be Non-Gazetted Officers in perpetuity?" What we want is that Government should provide houses for the Non-Gazetted Officers. Why did the Government say that plots should be sold first to Non-Gazetted Officers and then to Gazetted Officers? There should be housing facilities for all sections of the population. If costly plots of land are to be sold to Government servants alone, where will then be land available for the rest of the people and that too in the City where accommodation is said to be difficult to obtain? 3–40 p.m.

I feel not only that this discrimination is against the fundamental rights of citizens but that it is extraordinary that costly plots of land should be offered for sale when Government have little or no land for their own purposes. I would request Government who will have to expand their activities in course of time to buy these large areas of land in very suitable surroundings. A hostel or a college could be put up and any amount that is spent in buying these lands for this purpose will not be a waste indeed. This order of Government asking the lands to be sold first to the Non-Gazetted Officers and then to Gazetted Officers shows how extremely solicitous they are about their own officers. I am one with the Government that they should increase the salaries of Government servants. But, Sir, there are limits to differentiation between one sector and another. Do the Government realise that when they give these amenities to their servants, industries, private labour and many others will suffer?

One of the things that the Government did for the sake of their servants was to announce advance of two months' pay at the time of festival. It was one month's pay last year. It is two months' pay now. It will be three or four months' pay next year. I do not know whether Government are aware of the fact that immediately after their announcement of advance of two months' pay to the Non-Gazetted Officers, every other concern had to follow suit. I am saying this on the ground that as a result of this advance, withdrawals from the provident fund have increased by 100 per cent, in one office, at any rate. What is the object of giving these two months' salary as advance at the time of festival? Human nature being what it is, that money would be utilised for other things. There are children. There are various other factors, not to speak of mothers-in-law and daughters-in-law with whom my hon. Friend Sri K. Balasubramanya Ayyar is more conversant than I am. What is the result? Chronic penury. If Government want to satisfy the wants of their servants, instead of giving this sort of festival advance, they could give an outright

grant, maybe a week's or a fortnight's pay. That would be far better than giving an advance and recovering it in twelve monthly instalments, which really pinches the Non-Gazetted Officer's pocket when he pays the instalment.

Recently Government announced that Gazetted Officers would have to be given free treatment in the Government hospitals. Consider, in this socialistic pattern of Government, Gazetted Officers getting a salary of Rs. 1,000 and more walking into the hospitals of the State and taking up costly special wards, free of all charges, without their paying a single naya paisa. Not only that. They should be supplied with the necessary drugs, the costlier drugs, free of cost. Being Gazetted Officers, they know which drug is costly. Unless the Medical Officer dares to say that they must give room for others, these Gazetted Officers should get all the treatment, all the diet and all the costliest of equipment for use and the most intricate of surgical operations—all these without their paying a single pie. When the concession was announced, I remember the Hon. the Finance Minister saying at that time that this was the practice that was in vogue in the previous regime and that, therefore, they were only continuing the same again. I venture to say in all humility that I know of the past practice much better and that there is no reason to think that such a practice existed before. I should like to be corrected by the Hon. the Finance Minister, if I am wrong. Let me not be mistaken as though I am against the Gazetted Officers. I do believe that there are other ways of helping the Government Officers without showing this sort of treatment which for all I know cannot be justified under any circumstances.

I now come to an important portfolio held by the Hon. the Minister for Revenue and Health. He is not present here. I hope I will be forgiven if I refer to him because I have no other opportunity to do so. My chief difficulty here is that I do not think I can attempt to have the serious attention of the House in the few remarks that I wish to make, for the Hon. the Minister for Health has the gift of turning everything into a humorous reply and drowning the House in a great peal of laughter. Mr. Chairman, we may laugh away many things but we cannot afford to laugh away the health and welfare of the people at large. In spite of the many attempts to invite the attention of the Government to various aspects connected with public health, medical education and medical relief in the past few years, I must confess to a feeling of frustration that I do not seem to have had any success with the Ministry. I have perused with care the Second Five-Year Plan and the programme for 1960-61 in that Plan. If there is one department more than another which has not found it possible to spend the allotment in the Second Five-Year Plan, it is the Department of Medicine and Public Health. Let me give a few illustrations.

23rd March 1960] [Dr. A. Lakshmanaswami Mudaliar]

While the provision for rural water-supply comprehensive scheme was Rs. 195 lakhs, the total amount that is expected to be spent at the end of the Plan period is about Rs. 172 lakhs, leaving a balance of Rs. 23 lakhs, and even this on the supposition that in 1960-61 a sum of Rs. 29 lakhs will be spent.

Let me take another instance. It is a notorious fact that there are not enough trained medical officers to man the hospitals and one of the things stressed over and over again is that medical officers should be sent abroad for special training. In spite of the fact that a meagre provision of Rs. 5 lakhs was made in the Second Five-Year Plan period for training of medical officers of the Madras State Government abroad in certain specialities, at the end of the Plan period, only a sum of Rs. 1·47 lakhs is expected to be spent. That is less than 33½ per cent of the sum originally expected to be spent ; and of this, Rs. 50,000 is for the fifth year of the Plan period.

Colleges are being started ; teachers are not available ; junior hands have to be appointed and every time the plea is to appoint those who have neither the experience nor the training. Yet, during the last four years of this Plan period, the Government could not find it possible to spend even one-fourth of the amount that had been allotted. It is possible that the Minister with such a heavy programme before him could not find the time to devote to these minor things.

Let me take again the provision that has been made for improvements to taluk headquarters hospitals. Out of Rs. 108·5 lakhs, at the end of the Five-Year period, only Rs. 35 lakhs is expected to be spent and even out of this, Rs. 15 lakhs in the next year. That means so far we have not spent even one-fifth of the original allotment for the entire Plan period. Are we to take it that the sum of Rs. 108 lakhs was wrongly suggested as possible expenditure? Everybody knows the conditions in which taluk headquarters hospitals are and yet, the Ministry does not find it possible to spend this amount. Equally so, in regard to improvements to various hospitals. While there is a provision in the Second Five-Year Plan of a sum of Rs. 163 lakhs, the total amount expected to be spent at the end of that period is only about Rs. 85 lakhs.

Take, again, the provision for a disease like leprosy about which I have spoken often. It is widespread in some of the districts, particularly South Arcot, parts of Chingleput and even North Arcot from which the Hon. Minister comes. While a sum of Rs. 18·15 lakhs is provided, at the end of the period, even half of this amount is not likely to be spent. 3-50 p.m.

Likewise, under tuberculosis, about which the Lady Member spoke so strongly—I do not know if she has seen the figures in the Second Five-Year Plan—out of an allotment of Rs. 32 lakhs, the expenditure is expected to be, not that it has been incurred, at the end of the Plan period Rs. 16 lakhs.

The House is aware that constant reference was made to the necessity for a chronic diseases hospital in the City and, in fact, a site in Avadi was inspected on more than one occasion, so as to relieve the extreme congestion in hospitals in the City caused by the overcrowding of patients. The Government generously said that they would consider the matter and every hope was entertained that this would be taken note of. But what do we find in the Second Five-Year Plan Programme? Under item 17 of 'Control of Diseases, Medical, etc.', a statement is made—

'Establishing of 500-bed Chronic Diseases Hospital in the City'. The remark is : 'Scheme since dropped'.

For what purpose? Will the Government be pleased to explain? Was it because of a directive from the Planning Commission? I should like to have some enlightenment.

We are supposed to know something of the Plans, to be taught what planned method of development is. Sermons are preached; planning forums have to be established in every college; an amount of money is being spent. And here is a Plan for a State about which nobody knows what is happening and what are the reasons for these major changes.

For the establishment of paediatric centres, that is, centres for children's diseases, a meagre sum of Rs. 5·57 lakhs was provided and at the end of the Plan period, the remark is made that the scheme is deferred. The hon. Lady Member spoke so much about children. I wonder whether this has attracted her attention. I hope so because her eloquence will have greater effect on the Government of the State than my voice.

For the establishment of clinical and public health laboratories, a provision of Rs. 17·31 lakhs is made and the expenditure expected to be incurred at the end of the Plan period is Rs. 8·23 lakhs of which no less than a sum of Rs. 5·4 lakhs is expected to be spent in the last year of the Plan.

A provision of Rs. 8·39 lakhs under School Medical Inspection has since been dropped. I do not know whether this was dropped because the Health Minister did not think it right to waste that money. I do not know whether the Education Minister has been consulted in the matter because school medical inspection is a joint responsibility of the two Ministries.

It has been painful for me to go through these details and more painful to voice them in the House. It is obvious that in this department nobody knows what is going on and what is happening.

In the meantime, the epidemic of smallpox has taken its toll from year to year. There has been no definite improvement in regard to water-borne diseases. As for any large schemes for the proper drainage of even big cities, little is known. In the Municipal Council of Tiruchirappalli, a vigorous debate took place

23rd March 1960] [Dr. A. Lakshmanaswami Mudaliar]

recently about the pollution of the river Cauvery by letting the whole sewerage of the town of Tiruchirappalli into the Cauvery. Other towns have done a great deal of research into this problem in other countries. I would like to know what this department has done in the matter and I would like to present to the Ministry the valuable books that have been written on pollution of river waters.

The hon. Lady Member referred to the fact that the water we drank had got the same characteristics as the water we were seeing around. She is perfectly right. She would probably know the reasons.

Whatever criticisms may be made in this House—and unfortunately, they have been made time and again—the Ministry seems to go on with the same placidity with which Tennyson's " Brook " has gone on for years.

Let me refer to another point. The profession of nursing in this part of the country has always attracted, fortunately for us, very able and very conscientious persons. The bulk of the work of the Medical and even Public Health Departments is done unostentatiously by the nurses in the various hospitals. The lack of proper quarters, the lack of suitable amenities, the low grade of pay—all these have largely made the position deplorably bad, particularly in the mufassal areas.

Proper quarters are not available to the nurses; they are to be in rented houses or sometimes in very uncongenial surroundings. Yet and yet when a provision of Rs. 14·52 lakhs was made in the Second Five-Year Plan, up to now not even a third of the amount has been spent and ultimately it is hoped that a sum of Rs. 9 lakhs will be spent at the end of the Second Five-Year Plan period. Is it suggested that the sum of Rs. 14·5 lakhs was excessive for the provision of nurses' quarters? Would this have been possible if there had been, as was the case in the past, a separate lady as the head of the Nurses Department? I hope my plea would be taken up by the hon. Lady Member. May I respectfully suggest that the other Lady Members, even though they are sitting behind the Treasury Benches, may agree with me?

I gather that there are about 600 or over nurses in the State. Formerly when they were far fewer, there was in the office of the Director of Medical Services a Directress of Nursing Services who looked after these nurses, a very talented lady, and I know her very well because she happened to be the Matron of the Hospital of which I was in charge, and she attended to the needs of the nurses and was responsible for recommending their promotions and transfers. I should like to know why this post of Lady Directress has been abolished. Is it on grounds of economy? I do not know why the Government should show so much of sympathy to the aspirations of qualified women only at All-India

[Dr. A. Lakshmanaswami Mudaliar] [23rd March 1960

Women's Conferences and when they are addressing them on their platforms and why they do not take note of the advice that they give later on. I have always maintained that the two key positions for women should be the Deputy Directress of Women's Education and the Directress of Nursing Services. I know the hon. Lady Member wants recruitment of women police. If she had asked for recruitment of a lady as Deputy Inspector-General, I would have been more happy. Why does she want to put ladies to the subordinate position of Sub-Inspectors and head constables? I cannot understand it and I am glad that at least on grounds of height and weight, they are put aside.

I strongly feel that these posts should be re-introduced for many reasons. I do not want to elaborate because I have personal experience of how these nurses are treated without a Lady Member in the Government. Many complaints are now being made about transfers. I do not want to go into the allegations that have been made. It is impossible for any particular head to control or supervise all these smaller fry in the office, to regulate these transfers, promotions and other features of Nursing Service. The need, therefore, is imminent and I hope sufficient notice will be taken.

The other day my hon. Friend—he is here now—in his usual inquisitive manner called for information about resignation of doctors, and a statement was laid on the table of the House. The Medical Officers are Gazetted Officers, let me remind the House. The statement showed that in 1957, 19 persons resigned, that in 1958, 42 persons resigned, and that up to May 1959, already 24 had resigned. My hon. Friend Sri Mohamed Raza Khan observed that the resignations were by people who had put in years of service and that to-day there were scores of vacancies. Has the Minister given any thought to this question? Has he prepared any plans or consulted anybody why this is happening? I know, for instance, that some of these resignations are due to the fact that there are attractive jobs through other Government agencies, jobs which require little or no expenditure of energy or thought to be given. But I know also of other causes. There are jobs where the additional incomes are so disproportionate that the moment a person is transferred, naturally he thinks of resigning. Why have the Government decided that only those in service should be entitled to attend on the Central Service and obtain the remuneration? The Medical Department at present, I can assure this House from my personal knowledge, is in a position to stand the strain to a certain extent, because in the administration of hospitals and in the treatment of patients in every speciality besides general surgery and medicine, a large number of honorary medical officers and honorary assistants are available. They are giving their time and energy without expecting any return whatsoever.

4 p.m.

I know the statement is sometimes made that they get the experience. But do not others get the experience? Are they doing it without getting experience? But that apart, I was myself

23rd March 1960] [Dr. A. Lakshmanaswami Mudaliar]

a service man, and I shall not say anything to suggest that the service men do not deserve what they get. I plead that they deserve much more. And if I had my voice, I would have made them whole-time servants on a salary which could compare with that of the I.A.S. The Hon. the Education Minister will tell you that the best students are taken to the medical colleges. After a strenuous course of seven years and very often after an additional course of two or three years for specialities, they are given a magnificent sum of Rs. 175 per month, whereas a graduate, immediately he is selected for the I.A.S., the Indian Foreign Service or the I.P.S. is given a much higher salary. Graduates are selected for the many Indian and un-Indian services, and to-day they are selected in hundreds, not as if only half a dozen, the very choice of the Universities of India, were selected when the Indian Civil Service was there. Nobody can advise them, because that is a department which is more or less the highest in the country. Only the best candidates go to the medical colleges and the second best only go to the arts and science colleges. If any proof is required, I am prepared to place facts before any impartial authority. Why should the medical men be treated in this shabby manner? I would like to know whether the Hon. Minister has given any thought to the problem of medical administration and medical relief in the Second and Third Five-Year Plans. I know that Ministers are very busy indeed. They have to visit the various parts of the State. On more than one occasion the districts have to be visited. They must be in personal touch with all that is going on there. What we, their representatives in one capacity or another, tell them in the Legislature is not of much consequence and, therefore, they have to be absent. But while they may be absent, am I to understand that all these things are to be left more or less uncared for?

Sir, I was glad to learn from the reports in the other House that the Penitentiary was likely to be shifted to a place outside the City of Madras. I welcome it as one of the important steps that will have to be taken. When it is shifted, I hope the whole of that place will be made available for the extension of the amenities of a hospital, and I would suggest, as I have done on a former occasion, that it must be utilised for what is known as the out-patient department, or what is known as polyclinic in other countries, for the treatment of casualty cases, with a suitable operation theatre, post-operative wards, and blood banks. Let it not be converted into an additional ward.

I have maintained that so far as hospitals are concerned, 750 beds should be the optimum. The maximum should not exceed 1,000. Unfortunately, in every hospital overcrowding is taking place, to which the hon. the Deputy Leader had referred on more than one occasion. I was shocked to find that one of the finest hospitals that I had known, namely, the hospital in Coimbatore—I went there only the other day—was once again becoming more or less a slum area, if I may so put it. Hospitals are like choultries. They are not like hospitals, because the

Government do not realize that a hospital cannot have more than a certain number of beds for the efficient administration and treatment of patients. The proper thing would have been to construct another hospital in Coimbatore on the other side and to cater to the needs of the patients. I have ventured to suggest that in Madras City there should be one hospital in the north and another in the south maintained by the Government, and that the General Hospital should not have additional beds. Unfortunately, these are voices in the wilderness. The experts think otherwise, and the Ministers think otherwise. Therefore, there is no question of any such suggestion being accepted. Will the Government at least now consider the desirability of calling the experts from other States or even from other countries to advise them? I do not want to be on that committee. But let them take the advice, and for the sake of posterity, consider what the problems are.

Sir, I had hoped on this occasion not to refer to the subject of education for more reasons than one. But the Budget speech of the Finance Minister has made it necessary for me to touch on certain aspects which have been referred to in that speech. From the reports in the Press, from the letters that have appeared in the columns of newspapers, and from the editorials that have been written, there can be no denying the fact that one of the most important topics agitating the public mind is the question of change in the medium of instruction in the college classes. It is noticed in the Budget speech, "From the next year onwards, instruction in the B.A. First Year course in Coimbatore Government Arts College will be given in Tamil. The necessary text-books in Tamil for the purpose are being prepared now. It has been decided in consultation with the Vice-Chancellors of the Madras and Annamalai Universities that with effect from 1963–64, the medium of instruction in all colleges for the B.A. course should be Tamil ". I was greatly surprised and pained to find this statement in the Budget speech of the Finance Minister. I do not know what consultation means. I am told by Professors of English that it means concurrence. If so, I should like to make the position a little clear.

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : If it means 'concurrence', I have used that word in that sense.

DR. A. LAKSHMANASWAMI MUDALIAR : I know the Hon. Minister must have used it in that sense. But I have also my own statement to make. Long before this Government came into power—when I say this Government, I mean the Congress Government—the University anticipated that owing to the ideological views and the possibility of those views being forced on the University, the Syndicate should be prepared to meet the situation if it arose. Therefore, a regulation was passed that if any college wanted to have any medium of instruction, it was open to that college to have that medium of instruction. At that stage, we said 'Intermediate'—subject to the condition that one year's notice

23rd March 1960] [Dr. A. Lakshmanaswami Mudaliar]

should be given before the change-over, that suitable personnel in the language concerned should be available to the satisfaction of the Syndicate, and that the necessary books in the language concerned should be made available before the introduction of the language as the medium of instruction. Let me state this fact, though some people in this House might not remember, that in the light of these regulations and the steps taken by the Syndicate, three colleges offered to change over the medium, namely, the Government Arts College, Coimbatore, the Salem Municipal College, Salem, and the National College, Tiruchirappalli. Within three years after the change-over, each one of these colleges again requested the Syndicate to allow it to change-over to the original medium of instruction. With all these facts so clearly before him, no Vice-Chancellor would have dared to give the impression to the Government that he had any right to express a view on this subject without consulting the University authorities. In other respects, Sir, to the best of my belief, all that happened was that because these regulations were there, I had no hesitation in saying that if the Government wanted to have a pilot project in Coimbatore for the teaching of humanities in the particular language, they could do so under the provisions of the University's regulations. It was not possible for me to have committed the University in any other manner. If one who has been a member of the Syndicate for thirty-five years, and who had the opportunity of getting acquainted with the rules and regulations of many other Universities in India, and one who fortunately or unfortunately had been the executive head of that University for a period of eighteen years, has committed the error, as the papers are inclined to believe, of offering that the University will adopt the thing whatever may be the circumstances, I think that Vice-Chancellor deserves the condemnation at the hands of the University authorities. Sir, in the University, we have not got a solid block behind the Vice-Chancellor to support him in whatever action he takes and we are undemocratic perhaps in that respect. But, it is difficult for us to allow the views of any particular individual to go down in University affairs. What has been the position? Let us see. The earlier impression was that 4-10 p.m. the medium of instruction, so far as certain subjects in the humanities were concerned, might be changed to Tamil and that for this purpose, a pilot scheme would be tried in only one college in the whole State. Secondly, if this pilot scheme were to prove a success, it might be extended to other colleges, it was presumed, on a voluntary basis. The third change is that recorded in the Government Order of April 1959, where it is stated—

"It would be open to private colleges to continue to provide English medium of instruction in the B.A. Degree courses even after this change-over is effected, but no grant will be payable by the State Government in respect of such courses."

The fourth stage, let me add if my understanding of the English language is correct, is that the attitude of the Government is reflected in the Budget speech of the Hon. Minister wherein one

step further has been taken, when it is stated that " the medium of instruction in all colleges for the B.A. course should be Tamil." What this means will be very clear to anybody who studies the language adopted from time to time in the Government Orders or in the official speeches of the Education Minister. We have, therefore, progressed from a pilot project to a voluntary change-over in some colleges ; then to the next stage of no grants being given if such change-over does not take place; and finally to the last stage where the Government have stated in the Budget speech that " the medium of instruction in all colleges for the B.A. course should be Tamil." And this even before the so-called pilot project has been started in the year of grace 1960–61. I realise that this may come into effect sooner than later. Speaking to the College Union of Sir Theagaraya College, Washermanpet, the Minister for Education is reported to have stated on 21st August 1957, as follows :—

" It was not as if he could not force the pace by passing a legislation in the Assembly and the Council."

But, he was kind enough to add : ' It was not the way of dealing with higher education.' " He wanted that they should themselves feel that that was the obvious right step and there was no other alternative or choice."

It can now be easily understood that what the Hon. Minister had all along intended was the authoritarian method of dealing with the University in case it did not behave properly. All this idea of a pilot project was, I venture to submit with all respect, merely to soft-pedal the ultimate and firm decision which he wanted to take. Under these circumstances, there is no use of speaking of Universities and Universities' autonomy in season and out of season. I do realise that in India, in most Universities, not necessarily in the Madras University, the position is entirely different, so far as the Party in power is concerned, in the various States. I have to note with deepest regret, Mr. Chairman, that the talk of University autonomy is only a talk in the air. For some time past, I have realized that the Madras University in particular has been behaving so badly that the Government have had, directly and indirectly, to look after its interests to such an extent that they probably now feel that the inevitable next step is to departmentalise the University and take it over fully under their protective wings. Otherwise, the steps that have been taken in the past are incredible.

The Education Minister summons meetings of Principals and discusses with them various academic questions. He summons meetings of managements of colleges and tells them that it was wrong on the part of the University to have started more colleges, to have given more seats as it were. And, the expression, ' authorized in-take ' and ' actual in-take ' has now dominated the whole scene in such a way that many questions have arisen. If the Government think that the University of Madras is not conducting itself in a manner consistent with the interests of University

23rd March 1960] [Dr. A. Lakshmanaswami Mudaliar]

education, if that be the impression, I would respectfully suggest to the Minister for Education that he may ask the Chancellor to take the powers with which he is invested and have a full-blown committee to look into the state of affairs, as provided in the Madras University Act.

I ask, 'Is finance going to be the factor which will control and determine educational policy? '. And yet, just because a small amount is requested by some managements, by some Principals, the stranglehold on University education has already become something phenomenal.

I know that the Government may not appreciate or recognize the changes that have been introduced, whether it be the abolition of the Honours course or the introduction of the three-year degree course or many other factors. But these changes have been introduced by duly constituted authorities of the University on the advice of duly constituted all-India bodies and not on the advice of individuals or due to the vagaries of any particular individual.

Sir, how can any University function if this diarchy in the administration is to continue? Is it supposed that the University has not been able to look into these matters and is not capable of taking steps in regard to these matters and, so, it should be the burden of the Education Ministry to interfere in these matters? It was reported that at the last meeting of the Principals, reference was made to two small incidents, a strike of the students in the hostels of two colleges and that grave concern was expressed and certain steps for dealing with these things were reported to have been suggested. What does all this show? Reference had been made to this in spite of the fact that the University had dealt with it. Sir, I remember to have read of a students' strike in a neighbouring University when the Education Minister of the State was actually present. And the people know in what manner this indiscipline was treated. The University had to be closed down; the students had to be forced out of their hostels; the Police had to be requisitioned; and many other steps were taken at a time when actually the Education Minister was present on the scene, and, of course, it must have been by the Vice-Chancellor and not the Education Minister. I do want to protest against the attitude adopted in regard to incidents in the colleges making it appear that there was something very seriously wrong. For I feel that it is the most effective manner of interfering with the autonomy of the University. Let me frankly state that I have had the opportunity to look into many incidents of student indiscipline in many Universities in this country, and I can say with firm conviction and experience that the less the State Government interfere and make themselves busy with University affairs, the greater is the possibility of discipline prevailing and student welfare being ensured. It may be that my views are not respected or even followed. Mr. Chairman, may I take some more time?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Yes.

[23rd March 1960

DR. A. LAKSHMANASWAMI MUDALIAR: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It has been stated in the Budget speech that the necessary text-books in Tamil for this purpose, namely, the change of medium are being prepared now. I may state, in this connection, that so far, at any rate, not a single text-book in Tamil has been sent to the University. So far as the University is concerned, the procedure followed in such cases is that any books which are prescribed as text-books or as books of reference must first be approved by the Boards of Studies concerned and then placed before the Academic Council and it is only then that these books are commended to the students. Sir, it is the responsibility of the Vice-Chancellor and of nobody else—not even that of the Syndicate—to see to the proper observance of the Ordinances, the Regulations and the Statutes according to the Act. Because I did not want to be considered a hindrance to the Government in their desire to utilize this pilot scheme, which they wanted to be a successful thing, in other places also, I went so far as to suggest very recently that if the books were sent to the University, I would summon a meeting of the Board of Studies concerned, which I had the power to summon, and that if they recommended the books, I was prepared to go further and take courage in my hands to suggest that these books might be used and that then later, if I was in a position to do so, I would request the Academic Council to approve my action. That is the utmost that the University can do now.

4-20 p.m. Sir, I am sorry that in the evening of my career, I have to express myself with so much of regret as to the trend of events in University education. The University which has celebrated its Centenary and which, unfortunately, has received a certain amount of commendation in quarters where, perhaps, that commendation is worth while, is now in the position that it has for the last three years to submit itself to the dictates of the Government because its colleges and their managements cannot otherwise get a paltry sum of money given as so-called grants by the gracious Government.

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM: I would like to know in what way I have dictated to the University. I would like to have one instance.

DR. A. LAKSHMANASWAMI MUDALIAR: It has been suggested that colleges cannot open new courses of study unless the Government assure them the grant. Even that, the Syndicate accepted, and said that so far as the other colleges were concerned, the managements would certainly be asked to give not some sort of a promise but provide actual money so that they might continue to have these courses. I know that managements have sometimes to get grants. But I have always held the view, and I shall continue to do so, 'Better poverty and independence than affluence and slavery.'

23rd March 1960]

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : I can even now assure this House that in academic matters I have never interfered, even though I have my own views. Once the University has taken a decision, I put all my weight to implement it. But as far as financial matters are concerned, I am responsible to the House and I have to husband the resources of the State to the best of my ability. In these matters, I have to exercise my own judgment.

DR. A. LAKSHMANASWAMI MUDALIAR : I was never questioning the right of the Government to exercise their judgment in financial affairs. It is true that within the last three years the University Grants Commission has given over two lakhs of rupees to the Madras University and to the affiliated colleges for various purposes—to improve the accommodation, the library, the laboratory, the hostels for the students, etc. As a matter of fact, the total sum given by the University Grants Commission in the Second Five-Year Plan is Rs. 2,17,69,605. Of this sum, the affiliated colleges in the attenuated Madras State alone have been given a sum of Rs. 1,06,24,472. I do realize that the Madras Government may not feel that these grants were necessary; but the fact remains that on account of these grants, managements have been able to meet the requirements of their respective colleges for the conversion into the three-year degree course and this, when they did not expect much generous assistance. They have been able to construct hostels out of grants, not loans, the income from which grants will be a substantial part of the amount needed for the maintenance of colleges. I am not going to enter into the question what has been the contribution of the State Government. It is entirely for the Hon. the Minister for Finance to decide. He has, of course, to get the approval of the Legislature and I am not competent to talk about that. For this reason, when the Third Five-Year Plan was submitted to the University Grants Commission, the University pleaded that there should be no question of matching grants for any of the projects that the University might be undertaking. We know that matches are very difficult to settle. Barkis may be willing but Pegotty may not be willing. Therefore, the difficulty has been that these matching grants had to be accepted without which the University could not do much. In future, of course, the University will be in a position probably to lessen its activities. Whatever the University Grants Commission may have to offer, let it be offered unqualifiedly for I know the State Governments have their own responsibility to the Legislature. I am not for a moment commenting that they do not see eye to eye with the University. But what is more, whether it be salaries for teachers or anything else, they have, I realize, to get the approval of the Legislature—not this Council. Therefore, my appeal has been, wherever I have had the opportunity to make such an appeal, that the managements, whatever the result, must live within their own economic sphere so that they may just continue to do what little they can do. It was suggested, for instance, that the University had started too many colleges without realizing that one college might affect another college. I plead

guilty. I am sorry with all these unfortunate developments I have been connected and I plead guilty. But may I say this? Let me bring it to the notice of the House that in 1946–47, the accommodation for the students was so limited in colleges that boys had to go begging from college to college for seats with their S.S.L.Cs. which were once characterised as their 'Panchangams', and in the end, not getting admission, become frustrated. And then the Government of the day, which was a Congress Government, through the Ministry of Education, decided that the colleges should be asked to double their strength, to have a shift system and to take in all these boys. The University felt that it was not in the interests of academic standards to do such a thing. And then the University authorities went begging from door to door. May I recall in reverence how those philanthropists with tears in their eyes came forward to save the boys who were frustrated and to see that the University was not subjected to the criticism that it had not made provision for more colleges? In the period from 1946 to 1955 or 1956, 45 colleges were started in the composite State of Madras. And they were not started as mushroom growths but subject to two conditions. One of them was that the managements should guarantee five lakhs of rupees as an endowment and five lakhs for provision of buildings, library and laboratory facilities. My friend over there did it and many others have done it. Although they might have felt sorry then, ultimately they felt happy over it. If now we are going to be told that we have without proper thinking started too many colleges and that, therefore, the strength in the colleges has fallen, what is the answer that anybody can give except to plead guilty to the charge of lack of forethought? May I say one thing? When a college was started in Kancheepuram four or five years ago, it was started, I won't say as a branch, by the famous Pachayappa's Trust Board with a good promise of strength. And it was getting on and progressing. May I respectfully ask the Hon. Minister why suddenly a polytechnic was started in the Kancheepuram town? Would it not affect the strength in the college? Undoubtedly, it has affected the strength in the college. The college is not in a position to know what to do. If 120 boys who get out of the schools nearby and who would join the Pre-University class ultimately join the polytechnic in that town, is it the crime of the Principal or the Management of that college or the University? I am not going to suggest for a moment that it was not desirable to introduce more polytechnics in the State, more engineering colleges in the State, and so on. That is not my plea at all.

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM: May I say that you were in a different capacity responsible for that decision?

DR. A. LAKSHMANASWAMI MUDALIAR: No. Sir. I had to obey the Government. In the sub-committee over which I unfortunately presided, I could not allow my views as Vice-Chancellor to dominate. I had to yield. Let me make it clear

23rd March 1960] [Dr. A. Lakshmanaswami Mudaliar]

to the Hon. the Minister for Education that it is not my intention to indulge in any frivolous or vexatious attack. I am opening my heart out to the Members of this House.

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : Not by accusing me.

DR. A. LAKSHMANASWAMI MUDALIAR : I am not accusing you. But I am only telling the House how these things came about.

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : Even criticism must be fair.

DR. A. LAKSHMANASWAMI MUDALIAR : How could the University have had the forethought that a large number of polytechnics and engineering colleges would be opened in various towns?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : I plead guilty to that.

DR. A. LAKSHMANASWAMI MUDALIAR : There is no question of feeling guilty or otherwise. I am not a court of justice to go into it. I am telling the House for the first time, perhaps, the actual facts. 4-30 p.m.

Let me now pass on to another subject. I have already expressed the view that a Deputy Directress of Education is very necessary. Recently a communication was received from the Government, which I understand was based on the communication from the headquarters of the National Cadet Corps, constituting Committees for selection of personnel and officers. The Committee for selection of officers from the Mens' Colleges was to be presided over by the Vice-Chancellor. The Committee for the selection of the officers from High Schools was rightly to be presided over by the Director of Public Instruction. But the Committee for the selection of women from Women's Colleges was to be presided over by the Secretary to Government, Education Department. I should like to know why it should be so. Even if there is no post of Deputy Directress of Education, may I not suggest that a senior Woman Principal should have presided over this Committee? I do not know whether the hon. Member Mrs. Clubwala Jahdav will agree with me in this. But so far as college students are concerned, the University has decided to address the National Cadet Corps Commanding Officer that a woman Principal should preside over the Committee for the selection of women teachers for the post of officers in the National Cadet Corps.

I should like to ask the pardon of the House, if I have spoken offending anybody. My object is not to wound anybody in the evening of my life as the shadows are falling fast. I shall not give the impression that I am here to cross swords with anybody. I simply expressed my views and feelings which are not, I must confess, of a very happy nature. If I have done anything wrong, I beg your pardon and that of the House.

[23rd March 1960

* SRI S. P. SIVASUBRAMANYA NADAR : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Budget speech of the Hon. the Minister for Finance which has been printed and supplied to us gives an indication of the rapid strides which our State has made in all walks of life. The Agricultural Department deserves to be specially congratulated on the results it has achieved in increasing the yields per acre. This State has now the pride of place of being the fourth in the whole world in the matter of production per acre. Japan stands first. The United States comes next. China comes third. Our Madras State takes the fourth place. That shows the amount of progress this State has made in increasing production. Not merely that; in regard to industries also, we find major industries are springing up all over the State. Small industries are also coming up encouraged by Government. In the public sector also the results are very encouraging. Apart from congratulating the Government on their achievement, I would place before them some of the grievances of the people also, which I hope the Government would look into.

(Deputy Chairman in the Chair.)

First and foremost—let me confine my remarks to the needs of my district, namely, Tirunelveli—people were fondly hoping that with the opening of the Manimuthar Project, their woes would be at an end. But we find that when the scheme had begun to function effectively, the Government has directed the collection of penal tax from the people who have cultivated dry lands with paddy. These lands were under paddy cultivation for the past so many years even as long ago as thirty years. But heavy penalty is now levied and the Government have directed the collection of this for the last three faslis in a lump. The ryots are in a fix. They are not able to pay in a lump, the heavy penalty that has now been imposed on them. They have sought the help of the Government to suspend the collection, to examine the question and cancel, if possible, the penal assessment for the past three faslis. Request after request has been made to the Government to consider the question as to what has to be done in these cases of water rate cultivation which has been in vogue for more than thirty years. These lands are classified for dry cultivation but they are surrounded on all sides by paddy fields, in low-lying areas inundated by water by percolation. They are unfit for any cultivation except paddy. These cases have to be examined in each taluk and wherever it is found that these lands are unfit for cultivation with any crop other than paddy, they should be classified as 'Nanja' lands. The harassment of the ryots by levy of the penal tax and their running to Madras for redress at the hands of the Government year after year should be done away with. Another thing is the rate levied is very heavy and prohibitive. If that is insisted upon, it will spell ruin on the ryots. Those who are anxious to produce more should be encouraged. I take pride in the fact that a cultivator from Tirunelveli tops the list in the whole of the Madras State for having produced the highest yield per acre

23rd March 1960] [Sri S. P. Sivasubramanya Nadar]

and got the gold medal this year. When people of that type are working hard to produce more from every acre, this levy of penal tax spells very great ruin on them. I would request the concerned Minister to look into this matter. We have got a very sympathetic Minister in our Minister for Public Works. He knows the difficulties of the ryots. He is himself a ryot and he has worked with the people, moved with the people. I know he has the milk of human kindness in him. But, at the same time, he has to work in co-ordination with other departments, the Revenue Department and so on. The Ministers concerned were good enough to tour the area. They saw the conditions prevailing in those areas in person, the condition of the ryots there, the condition of the land there which the people want should be converted into nanja. They have made personal inspection in more than one taluk. Therefore, I would request that speedy action may be taken in the matter and the ryots relieved of their pain.

Another curious thing which is happening is in regard to misappropriation by some village headmen. Some village headmen misappropriated the revenue collections. They were prosecuted and sent to jail on conviction and sentence. But the Government, finding that the amount misappropriated by them could not be collected from them, have passed orders to recover the same from the poor Revenue Inspector and the Tahsildar. Large sums of money swallowed by the village headmen have been ordered to be paid by the poor Revenue Inspector and the Tahsildar concerned for no sin of their own. It will not be possible for them with their poor salaries to pay the amount out of their pockets. The sin alleged against them is that they failed to exercise sufficient supervision and control over the village headmen. If they had done, it is contended, the misappropriation would not have taken place. It is well-known that the village headmen collect large sums of money as revenues from various ryots even without giving receipts and that a few of them misappropriate the amount. Even if receipts are issued and the amounts are not brought into account, how can a Revenue Inspector, whatever his capacity and zeal, find out that the village headmen have collected so much and that so much has been misappropriated by them? How can he or the Tahsildar bring them under their disciplinary control? In these cases, years after the collections were made, the village headmen were prosecuted and convicted. Now these poor Revenue Inspectors and the Tahsildars have been asked to make good the amount misappropriated by village headman. But the high officials—the Revenue Divisional Officer and the Collector—were also equally responsible for exercising effective control over this subordinates. They are left free. The Revenue Inspector and the Tahsildar alone have been chosen to pay the penalty, not for their own sins but for the sins of some other people. I would appeal to the Government to examine this and pass suitable orders relieving the subordinate officers from this spell of disaster.

[Sri S. P. Sivasubramanya Nadar] [23rd March 1960

4-40 p.m. I want to say a few words about the construction of the Hospital buildings at Palamcottah. The first and the second floors of the building are nearing completion. It is deemed necessary to have a second floor. But the amount required for putting up the second floor has not yet been sanctioned either in this Budget or through departmental orders. If that work is taken up now itself, there will be great savings because the scaffoldings and the other things are there. If that work is taken up after the building is occupied, Government will have to spend more money on it. Not merely that. If the work is taken up after the building is occupied, it will be a great nuisance to the patients in the hospital in the first floor. The municipalities of Palamcottah and Tirunelveli have requested the Government to take up the work immediately. The Hospital Advisory Committee also has made a similar request. I, therefore, request that necessary sanction may be given for this work and the construction work proceeded with.

Sir, the district boards have more or less been abolished. They are practically defunct. Panchayats and Panchayat Unions have come into existence now. Some of the properties which were vested in the district boards, however, still continue to vest with the Special Officer and he is not able to exercise effective control over the administration of these buildings. Let me, in this connection, draw the attention of the Hon. Minister in charge of Local Administration, though she is not in the House at the moment, to some instances. There are two choultries belonging to the district board at Tirunelveli itself. They serve more or less people coming from the mofussil for their lodging. They are within the municipal limits. But they are still under the control of the Special Officer. Similarly, there is a Harijan choultry in Tirunelveli just adjoining the other choultry. That is also vested in the Special Officer. The present policy is to vest these properties in the local authorities concerned. Therefore, the Municipality of Tirunelveli has requested the Government to vest the administration of these two choultries in them, so that they may have effective control over the administration of these properties. If they are handed over to the Municipality, they may improve them, and provide all the amenities required by people staying there. I would requst the Government to pay early attention to this matter also.

Sir, last year in my Budget speech I drew the attention of the Hon. the Minister for Public Works to the fact that in the Cape Comorin-Banaras Trunk Road there was a bridge connecting Tirunelveli and Palamcottah over the Tambaraparni and that it needed urgent attention. That is an ancient bridge constructed out of the munificence of a private individual. It is more than 120 years old. It was constructed at a time when there was no heavy traffic, when there were only country carts and so on. Being on the trunk road and connecting two important places, it is not able to withstand the heavy traffic that is now on it. The bridge is also very narrow. Now we have buses which take in more than sixty passengers, big

23rd March 1960] [Sri S. P. Sivasubramanya Nadar]

buses running over it. Two buses cannot cross the bridge at the same time and also there is no room for pedestrians to move freely. They run pell-mell to save their own lives. That is the condition of the bridge. The Government have been pleased to construct new bridges all along on this trunk road. This bridge alone has escaped their attention. The Government, I understand, are insisting on the Municipalities of Palamcottah and Tirunelveli to contribute for the reconstruction of the bridge while it is their primary duty to take it up, the bridge being on the highway from Cape Comorin to Benaras. The bridge should be widened or reconstructed or the Government should construct a diversion bridge to meet the present-day needs. Our cry in this connection so far has proved only a cry in the wilderness.

Another matter to which I wish to draw the attention of Government relates to courts. Additional courts are created where there is no work and additional courts are not sanctioned where there is heavy work in the existing courts. I would cite only one instance in this connection. There are two district courts at Tirunelveli, one principal and one additional. There are also two Sub-Courts, one principal and one additional Sub-Court, in the headquarters of the district itself. There is very little work with the result that the District Judges for want of work, are taking up small criminal cases that are triable by Assistant Sessions Judges, so that they as well as the Public Prosecutor may have some work. The four courts there are functioning in that way. Now the Government have withdrawn the small cause powers of the two Sub-Courts there and vested their jurisdiction in the District Munsifs with the result that the work in the Sub-Courts has also considerably diminished. But the additional Courts continue year after year. Sir, I took pains to collect statistics of the number of cases pending, the number of cases that were usually filed and so on for the last two years and drew the attention of the Hon. Minister in charge to the fact that these Courts were superfluous. They are rather a luxury. Of course, I understand that the Government are convinced of what I said, but the High Court, it seems, wanted the continuance of these Courts and, therefore, they are still there. My submission is that these Courts could have been shifted to places where the work is heavy. If there is no necessity elsewhere also, these could have been discontinued. By so doing there would be a lot of saving to Government.

One other matter which I would like to stress is about the chit funds. It is gratifying to note that legislation to control these will be introduced in the present session of the Legislature. I have been clamouring for a number of years that these should be controlled. All sorts of people styling themselves as stakeholders collect money from poor and innocent people. After some time, these people disappear leaving no property or security in their name. If at all they 4-50 p.m.
have any property, it is in the name of their close relations. Thus they leave the people in great misery and trouble. There was one

[Sri S. P. Sivasubramanya Nadar] [23rd March 1960

glaring instance where one stakeholder was able to swindle to the tune of several lakhs of rupees and he went scot-free. The arms of law are not able to do anything against him. Criminal cases were filed against him for cheating the poor contributors and depriving them of their amount but the Courts dismissed them on the ground that they were of a civil nature. Even if we go to the Civil Court, I know that the man concerned, being pauper, having secreted his property in others' names, would go scot-free without any relief to the contributor who was cheated. These instances have, time and again, been brought to the knowledge of the Government. The erstwhile Travancore-Cochin State, even long before Independence, enacted a legislation controlling the chit funds. There the legislation is working fairly well. Now, I must congratulate the Hon. Minister in charge of this portfolio on proposing to bring forward a Bill to control these chit funds and thereby saving hundreds of people who are now being cheated. Thank you, Sir, for having given me this opportunity to speak on this occasion.

* SRI P. T. RAJAN : Mr Deputy Chairman, after the excellent performance to-day of the hon. the Leader of the Opposition and the hon. Lady Member, the excellent speech of my hon. Friend Mr. Balasubramanya Ayyar made day before yesterday and the speech made in between them by the hon. Member Mr. Raza Khan, I feel that I can add very little to the debate of the House. So, I will confine myself to the Religious Endowments Department and offer a few remarks. (Interruption) Yes, naturally when my hon. Friend gets old, he will not only become religious minded but will also speak particularly about 'Thirukkural'. I wish to say that those who vehemently opposed the Religious and Charitable Endowments Bill before it became an Act, have now come to realise, if I am not very much mistaken, that the Act has helped to manage better temples and maths. Temples, especially bigger temples, are better managed both from the financial point of view and from the point of view of worship. Nevertheless, there are a number of old, dilapidated and neglected small temples which can either be restored or demolished. They are an eyesore to the religious susceptibilities of the people. I know poverty will be pleaded but I hope it will be possible for the Hon. Minister in charge of the Department to persuade the bigger temples to take charge of the smaller temples and see that at least daily 'poojas' are done.

Coming to the maths, I must say that some of the maths have done so well that they have brought credit not only to themselves —by themselves I mean madathipathis—but they have also contributed a great deal to the growth of Tamil language, literature and culture. However, there are one or two maths, whose heads feel that maths exist for their own importance and the temples which are under their control, are absolutely being neglected though they are ancient and famous ones. I hope the Hon. Minister will go into the matter. During the course of the discussion on the Act

23rd March 1960] [Sri P. T. Rajan]

recently amended, it was mentioned by the hon. Friend Mr. Balasubramanya Ayyar that the *madathipathis* occupied a special position in that the Courts held that they could not easily be interfered with. I do not know how the *mahant* of Tirupati who was the sole arbiter of the temple there became a non-entity. All the offerings used to go to him. But after the Act came into existence and after the Committee was formed, the *mahant* ceased to be a factor in the administration of the Tirupati temple. If that can be done, I do not see any reason why *madathipathis*—I do not want interference in their spiritual position—should tinker with temporal powers and especially financial matters without realising their responsibilities. I request the Hon. Minister to examine this aspect of the matter very carefully and see that if a *madathipathi* is lax in his duties, he is asked to quit and somebody else substituted in his place or a committee is formed to see that the duties of the math are performed properly.

In passing, I should like the Hon. Minister who tours a great deal, to pay a surprise visit to some of these temples, especially smaller temples. Only recently I went to a temple and there I found no *archaka* in the morning and when I went and spoke to the executive officer about it—and he spoke to me in a very casual manner—he thought that he was conferring a favour on me by his condescending to talk to me. I do not mind that. What I should like to know is that those who are paid by the temples should see that the worship is conducted properly and that the duty is performed. If the Hon. Minister can pay a surprise visit to some of these temples, it might help in creating the right atmosphere.

There is one other thing on which I should like to offer a few remarks, viz., the 'prasadam' incident about which a number of questions were asked and about which a press interview appeared 5 p.m.
only two days ago. Sir, I have been a regular visitor to the Tiruchendur temple for nearly forty years. There are two "Sannidhanams". One is called "Subramanyaswami Sannidhanam". and the other is called "Arumugaswami Sannidhanam". The pooja that is conducted in 'Subramanyaswami Sannidhanam' is done by 'pothi'. The one who performs puja at 'Arumugaswami Sannidhanam' is also a Brahmin. He is called "makhami". They are all Brahmins. The reason for the special kind of puja at 'Subramanyaswami Sannidhanam' is that in olden times the temple was under the control of the Maharaja of Travancore. The other temple referred to was Cape Comorin in which also the 'pothi' performs the puja.

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Does the hon. Member want to continue his speech tomorrow?

SRI P. T. RAJAN: No, Sir. I will finish in another five minutes.

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: All right.

* SRI P. T. RAJAN : The Hon. Deputy Minister for Railways appears to have paid a visit to ' Subramanyaswami Sannidhanam ' at Tiruchendur temple one morning and after worshipping at the temple at Cape Comorin, the next day he went to attend the Lawyers' Conference held at Nagercoil. There he started making a speech wherein he referred to his visit to the two temples. It was then pointed out to the Deputy Minister that that was not the proper forum for raising that point. The Lawyers' Conference has nothing to do with religious matters and religious affairs. But it was made to appear that the Hon. Deputy Minister was dealing with that problem at constitutional and legal level. Undue notoriety was given to the visit of the Deputy Minister to these two temples. If it had been any other person, the temple authorities would have issued a press note, in the normal course of events, giving their version of the incident. But since he was an important personality, they did not issue a press note. It was left to the Minister in charge of the Religious Endowments Department to offer his remarks. I am not going into the propriety as to whether one Minister can say something about another Minister. Some statement had to be made by a responsible person as far as the incidents in these two temples were concerned. Be that as it may, I leave it to the Pundits whether this Minister or that Minister was right. Somebody had to say exactly what happened and that could be said by the Minister in charge of the Religious Endowments Department in this State. What I want to say is this.

So far as ' Pothis ' are concerned, they do not make any distinction between the rich and the poor. They do not make a distinction between a Brahmin and a Non-Brahmin. They perform the ' puja ' and offer ' prasadam ' to the devotees. They take particular care to see that they do not in any way touch any person to whom ' prasadam ' is offered. What does he do? In Tamil it is " கையில் கொடுக்கிறது ". (Sri K. T. Kosalram : He " throws ".) If the hon. Member translates " கையில் கொடுக்கிறது " as " throw ", then it is not correct. If the ' pothi ' were touched by anybody else, be he a Brahmin or a non-Brahmin, he must come out, take a bath and then enter the *sanctum sanctorum*. As a matter of fact, when the ' pothi ' comes out of the temple, before he reenters the *sanctum sanctorum*, he must take a bath and then only enter the temple again. Since the temple had been under the control of the Maharaja of Travancore, as I said, this practice was in vogue and it still continues. Regarding the Cape Comorin temple, it was till recently under the control of the Maharaja of Travancore. The custom which was set up previously still continues. If it had continued under the control of the Maharaja of Travancore, these rituals would be more rigorously observed. What I would like to say after visiting these temples year after year (I have visited these temples so many times) is that no insult is meant to anybody by the ' pothi ' giving ' prasadams ' in the way in which he does it, without touching the person to whom he gives the ' prasadam '. Unnecessary controversy has been introduced in this matter. Things are made to appear that the " pothis " are impertinent or

23rd March 1960] [Sri P. T. Rajan]

that they do not show respect to others. Incidentally, I say that in these two ' sannidhanams ', the priest does not garland any person, however eminent he may be. All that he does is to give " Vibudhi ", " Kumkum " or some flowers but he never garlands anybody. Unfortunately, in our temples garlands are put round the neck of the person. The bigger the man the bigger the garland. (Laughter) I feel that in all temples no garlanding should take place for in the eyes of God all are equal (cheers). Let there be one place at least wherein we can be equals. For various reasons you have got to have distinction in everyday line. There is the Superior Officer, Inferior Officer, Gazetted Officer, N.G.O. and so on. But in the eyes of God all are equals. There must be a place, I mean the temple, in which all should be equals. (Sri K. T. Kosalram : Socialism.) Better confine your socialism to politics I want to make an appeal to the Hon. Minister that this garlanding business should stop, within the temple. Let it be there in other places for in these days, with regard to some people, garlanding seems to be an important thing. Unless a visitor is garlanded, he feels hurt. Let that be continued in places other than temples. That does not matter. The hon. the Leader of the Opposition also took objection to the giving of " purnakumbam ". That is given to very important persons. That business also may be stopped. Only in rare cases " purnakumbam " should be given.

I only wanted to make it clear to the public that whatever may be the controversy raised by the Deputy Minister (there may be so many people interested in creating controversies), I would say that in these two temples the practice is that the priest does not make any distinction between this and that man and between the rich and the poor. As I said previously, I want the Hon. Minister to see to it that " garlanding " of persons is given up inside the temples. Thank you, Sir.

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : The House will now adjourn and meet again at 10-30 a.m. tomorrow.

The House then adjourned.

VI.—PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE OF THE HOUSE.

* 315. *Madras Government's Review on the working of the Fertilizers and Chemicals, Travancore, Limited, Alwaye, Kerala State, for the year ended* 31*st December* 1958. [*Laid on the table of the House under section* 639 (2) *of the Companies Act.*]

* 316. *Notification issued under section* 22 *of the Madras Estates (Abolition and Conversion into Ryotwari) Act,* 1948, *regarding the ryotwari settlement of Estates in Chingleput district other than Kachinad Estate issued with Memorandum No.* 115375-J3/50-2, *Revenue, dated* 17*th February* 1960.

* 317. *Notification issued with G.O. Ms. No.* 3569, *Home, dated* 19*th December* 1958, *regarding amendment to rule* 337 *of the Madras Motor Vehicles Rules,* 1940.